CITY HILIGHTS

The Truth Speaks

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PM MODI IN UDUPI

PM says 'Naya Bharat' knows how to defend itself

Prime Minister Narendra Modi stresses India's resolve to uphold peace and self-defence while invoking Gita teachings during Udupi visit

KEY REFLECTIONS

- Lakhs of devotees reciting verses from all 18 chapters of the Bhagavad Gita.
- PM recalls the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, asserting that unlike the past, "Naya Bharat" will not remain passive in confronting threats.
- Unveils nine life resolutions, urging citizens to adopt conservation, swadeshi, yoga, natural farming, heritage preservation, and support for the underprivileged.
- Modi highlights India's "Mission Sudarshan Chakra" as a shield and weapon for peace.

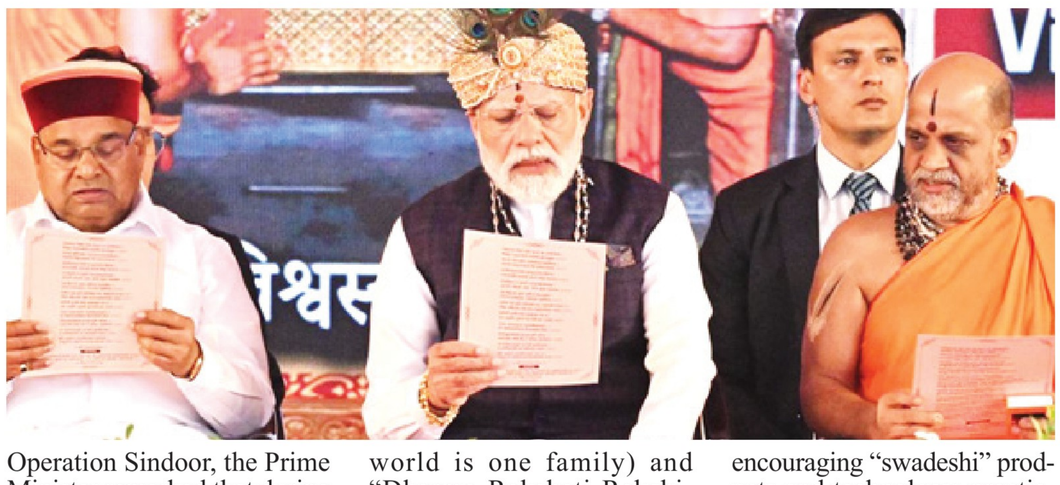
We know how to establish peace and also safeguard it. Gita teaches us to strive for peace and truth and also the need to crush perpetrators of atrocities. We believe in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and also recite 'Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha'.

—Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

UDUPI

Taking a subtle dig at Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday stated that India understands how to maintain peace and defend itself. Addressing the 'Laksha Kantha Gita Parayana' programme organized by Udupi Sri Krishna Mutt and Paryaya Putthige Mutt, he said, "Hum shanti ki sthapana bhi jaante hai aur shanti ki raksha karna bhi jaante hai" (We know how to establish peace and also safeguard it).

PM greeted by huge crowds at roadshow, recites Gita verses with lakhs of devotees at Sri Krishna Mutt. The event saw thousands of participants, including students, monks, scholars, and citizens, chanting verses from all 18 chapters of the Srimad Bhagavad Gita together. Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, the Prime Minister remarked that earlier, the "then Indian government" merely stood by. He added that the current government will not remain passive, asserting, "this is Naya Bharat."



PM invokes national security

Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack and the subsequent Operation Sindoor, the Prime Minister remarked that during earlier terror incidents, the "then Indian government" (Congress-led Centre) remained passive. Mr. Modi emphasized that the current government will not remain idle, declaring, "this is Naya Bharat."

He highlighted that Lord Krishna, while preaching the Bhagavad Gita on the battlefield, stated that "atyacharis" (wrongdoers) must be eliminated to uphold peace and truth. "Lord Krishna has said, 'shanti aur satya ki sthapana ke liye atyachariyon ka anthya bhi aaavashyak hai,'" Mr. Modi noted. On national security, he added that India follows the principles of "Vasudaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family) and "Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha" (dharma protects those who uphold it). "India launched Mission Sudarshan Chakra inspired by the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita," he concluded.

PM Modi in Udupi said India's "Mission Sudarshan Chakra," inspired by Lord Krishna's Sudarshan Chakra, serves as both a protective shield and a weapon against enemies.

Nine resolutions

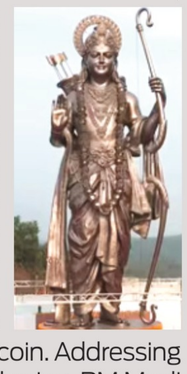
The Prime Minister urged people to embrace nine key resolutions in their lives, which encompass conserving water, promoting afforestation, supporting at least one underprivileged individual, encouraging "swadeshi" products and technology, practicing natural farming, leading a healthy lifestyle with reduced oil consumption, performing yoga daily, preserving manuscripts, and visiting a minimum of 25 culturally or historically significant sites across the country.

Visit to Sri Krishna Mutt

During his visit to the Sri Krishna Mutt, Mr. Modi inaugurated the Suvarna Tirtha Mantapa, situated in front of the Krishna sanctum, and dedicated the Kanaka Kavacha (golden cover) to the Kanakana Kindi, the sacred window through which Saint Kanakadasa is believed to have had divine darshan of Bhagwan Krishna.

PM Modi unveils 77-foot Lord Ram statue in Goa

GOA: During the 550th anniversary celebrations of Shree Samsthan Gokarn Partagali Jeevottam Math, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a 77-foot bronze statue of Lord Ram in Goa. As part of the festivities, he also opened the Ramayana Theme Park and released a commemorative postal stamp and coin. Addressing the gathering, PM Modi highlighted India's cultural revival, citing projects like the restoration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the renovation of Kashi Vishwanath Dham, and the expansion of Mahakal Mahalok in Ujjain.



Karnataka appeals to PM for fair MSP support

MANGALURU : Karnataka Minister Dinesh Gundurao submitted a request to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on behalf of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, urging the central government to announce fair minimum support prices (MSP) for maize and black gram. Speaking at Mangaluru Airport before Modi's visit to Udupi's Krishna Mutt, Gundurao highlighted the severe distress faced by farmers due to current low market rates. Gundurao urged immediate central intervention to ensure: MSP-based procurement by agencies like NAFED, FCI, and NCCF; direct participation of Karnataka farmers in ethanol production; increased ethanol allocation to Karnataka; restrictions on maize imports that depress prices.

'Not hurrying anything': DCM comments on Delhi visit

BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Friday addressed speculation over a potential leadership change in Karnataka, asserting that he was not seeking any post and that the Congress high command would take the final call. "I don't want anything. I am not hurrying anything. My party will make the decision. I don't want any community angle. Congress is my community, and my love is for all sections of society," Shivakumar told reporters.

The remarks come as the Congress government crosses the halfway mark of its tenure on November 20, fueling renewed discussion over the state's power-sharing formula. Shivakumar emphasized that his upcoming Delhi visit was focused on Karnataka's development concerns ahead of Parliament's Winter Session, not the leadership question. "I will definitely go to Delhi. It is our temple. Congress has a long history, and Delhi will always guide us," he said, adding that he plans to meet MPs to push stalled state projects.

Talk of a leadership transition resurfaced after the 63-year-old posted on X about the importance of keeping one's word, widely interpreted as a subtle reminder of a reported promise to make him Chief Minister for the second half of the government's five-year term. "Keeping one's word is the greatest strength in the world! Be it a judge, president or anyone else including myself, everyone has to walk the talk. Word power is World power," Shivakumar wrote.

Will definitely go to Delhi. It is our temple. Congress has a long history, and Delhi will always guide us."

—D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge reiterated that any decision on the CM post rests with the high command, including Sonia and Rahul Gandhi, and need not be discussed publicly.

Kurubas warn Cong against removing CM

BENGALURU

The Kuruba community has warned that if Siddaramaiah is removed from the Chief Minister's post, they will vote against the Congress in the next election. At a meeting in Bengaluru, community seers and leaders urged the party not to change the CM, stressing that Siddaramaiah represents not just Kurubas but the entire AHINDA bloc. They cautioned the Congress high command that any move undermining him would damage both the party and the wider state. In contrast, Dalit organisations in Karnataka's Tumakuru protested on Friday, demanding that Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara be made Chief Minister if the Congress high command decides on a leadership change. The protesters said it was time for the Congress to consider a Dalit leader for the top post, amid the ongoing debate over the alleged "power-sharing" arrangement between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar.

At least 56 dead as severe floods hit SL

COLOMBO

At least 56 people have lost their lives and 21 remain missing in Sri Lanka after days of relentless rain triggered destructive floods and landslides, marking one of the country's worst weather-related disasters in recent years. The Disaster Management Centre (DMC) confirmed that 21 deaths occurred in the central tea-producing district of Badulla, where a massive landslide swept away several homes overnight.

The situation worsened on Friday as Cyclone Ditwah, which had strengthened from a deep depression into a cyclone, skimmed along the island's eastern coast, unleashing even heavier rainfall. Videos circulating online show torrents of floodwater tearing through towns and sweeping away houses, while train services across Sri Lanka have been largely suspended.

Rivers continue to swell, and authorities have urged residents in low-lying regions to evacuate to safer areas. A red-level flood alert has been issued for communities along the Kelani River, including parts of Colombo, with conditions expected to deteriorate further within the next 48 hours.

CYCLONE DITWAH

Stalin reviews preparations for Cyclone Ditwah

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday reviewed the state's preparedness ahead of Cyclone 'Ditwah', which is expected to bring heavy rainfall to southern and Cauvery delta districts between November 29 and 30. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for these regions, prompting the state government to activate emergency protocols. Stalin held a video conference with district collectors from high-risk areas and instructed them to ensure seamless coordination in rescue and relief operations. He said senior officials have already been deployed to vulnerable districts and directed them to remain on high alert, especially in areas previously affected by cyclones and flooding. The Chief Minister also visited the State Emergency Operations Centre in Chennai to assess real-time updates. He stated that precautionary measures such as stocking essential supplies, preparing relief camps, and initiating evacuation from low-lying areas were already underway.

QUICK READ

Lakshadweep first UT to fully digitise voter enumeration forms

KAVARATTI

Lakshadweep has become the first Union Territory in India to achieve 100% distribution and digitisation of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) voter enumeration forms, the Election Commission said on Friday. The SIR exercise, launched on November 4, saw 55 Booth Level Officers conduct house-to-house visits across all ten islands, supported by 133 Booth Level Agents from various political parties. Special camps were also organised to expedite data collection and digitisation, said Electoral Registration Officer Shivam Chandra.

TMC alleges 40 SIR-linked deaths in Bengal, slams CEC

NEW DELHI

A Trinamool Congress delegation on Friday alleged that at least 40 people in West Bengal had died due to the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise, accusing Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar of having "blood on his hands." Led by Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien, the 10-member team met the full Election Commission bench in New Delhi and claimed the CEC failed to answer any of their five questions. The MPs submitted a list of alleged victims, which the EC dismissed as unverified. The TMC said it supports SIR in principle but criticised its execution.

Power tussle hampers State devpt: Yaduveer

MADIKERI

MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar expressed disappointment that the ongoing tussle for the Chief Minister's post between Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar is hampering Karnataka's development. Speaking to reporters in Madikeri, he said the prolonged power struggle between the two leaders has slowed down the state's progress. Wadiyar mentioned that even Congress leaders themselves have stated that the party's internal issues are of no concern to others, but the impact on governance cannot be ignored.

Congress may pick 'Dark Horse' as CM: Bommai

BENGALURU

BJP on Friday suggested that the Congress high command may sideline both Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar and opt for a "dark horse" as the next Chief Minister. Speaking to reporters, former CM and BJP MP Basavaraj Bommai claimed that Siddaramaiah and his deputy are "rigid due to ego," leaving the high command to explore other choices. "Both leaders are unwilling to compromise. This has forced the high command to consider alternatives, and in such a situation, a dark horse may emerge," Bommai remarked.

PUTIN INDIA VISIT

Prez Putin to visit India for Annual Summit

NEW DELHI

Russian President Vladimir Putin will arrive in India on December 4 for a two-day official visit, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed on Friday. During his stay in New Delhi, President Putin will hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as part of the 23rd India–Russia Annual Summit.

The MEA stated that the visit will provide an opportunity for both leaders to review the current state of bilateral cooperation and identify priorities for further strengthening the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between the two nations. Discussions are expected to cover a wide range of topics, including regional security, global developments, and economic ties, reflecting the long-standing strategic relationship between India and Russia.

The summit will also allow India and Russia to exchange perspectives on emerging geopolitical challenges and explore areas for deeper collaboration in sectors such as energy, defence, technology, and trade. This visit comes amid ongoing global uncertainties, and both nations are keen to reinforce their diplomatic, economic, and strategic engagement.

While the detailed itinerary of President Putin's visit is yet to be released, officials indicated that bilateral meetings, joint statements, and press briefings are likely to follow the summit. This marks another milestone in the India–Russia relationship, which has traditionally been characterised by strong political ties, defence cooperation, and shared strategic interests in the international arena.

The visit is expected to further consolidate the partnership and set the stage for future cooperation across multiple sectors, underscoring the mutual commitment of both countries to a long-term, stable bilateral relationship.

QUICK READ

Bengaluru man quits job, drives auto instead

Bengaluru
Rakesh, a Bengaluru resident, went viral after quitting his corporate job to drive an auto-rickshaw. In a social media video, he said, "Money is a necessity, but not the only one. Life has more meaning than a paycheck." He shared that he struggled before but now finds purpose in helping people and facing challenges head-on. The video struck a chord with many, with followers praising his courage to abandon ego, societal pressure, and comfort. Rakesh urged others to focus on life's true value, not just money, inspiring those contemplating bold life changes.

Empty-stomach metro travel risks rising among youth

Bengaluru
Metro officials have warned that traveling on an empty stomach and without enough sleep is causing dizziness and falls among commuters. In the past three months (August–October), 130 people, mostly under 30, were admitted to hospitals after experiencing fainting, blurred vision, sweating, and vomiting during morning rides. Experts advise eating breakfast or carrying bananas, nuts, and water, avoiding standing near doors, and wearing comfortable clothing. Officials urge passengers to prioritize health over rushing, especially during busy mornings, to prevent accidents and ensure safe travel on Bengaluru's metro system.

Bengaluru roads flooded with illegal election banners

Bengaluru
Race Course Road and surrounding areas in Bengaluru are crowded with banners and hoardings for the KEB Engineers Association elections, violating a High Court order banning such displays. Thousands of banners, including those featuring Superintendent Engineer Basavanna and other officials, have appeared across Anand Rao Circle, Gandhinagar, and Energy Bhavan. Citizens have questioned why BESCOM engineers openly flout the law while ordinary residents face penalties for similar actions. Despite clear BBMP rules, the officials show little regard for legal restrictions. The city's beauty and traffic safety are reportedly compromised as authorities have yet to take action against the violators.

Chennai Police Track Down Murder Accused Hiding in B'luru for 22 Yrs

Suspect evaded arrest for decades by posing as an incense-stick seller

DANIEL GEORGE, BENGALURU

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls may have stirred political debate, but it unexpectedly enabled Chennai police to arrest a murder suspect who had been on the run for nearly 22 years.

The case dates back to May 24, 2004, when Mariyam Beevi, a resident of the Chennai suburbs, alerted the Ennore police that her relative Rajendran—who had taken the name Rafiq after converting to Islam—had confessed to killing his friend Tajuddin during a drunken quarrel. Officers later recovered Tajuddin's body from Rafiq's residence, his throat slit. A murder case was promptly registered, but Rafiq fled, successfully staying out of sight for more than two decades.

During a recent review of long-pending investigations, Avadi Police Commissioner K. Shankar instructed officials to prioritise the cold case. Two special teams led by Ennore Assistant Commissioner Veerakumar began combing through online voter databases and travelling incognito as SIR data collectors to avoid raising suspicion while verifying leads in the field.

Their investigation took them first to Aakkanur village in Cuddalore district, Rafiq's hometown. There, officers learned that after marrying Rasool Beevi and converting to Islam, he had drifted across several districts—Ariyalur, Jayankondam, Tiruchi, and Perambalur—taking up odd jobs and living under the radar. To avoid detection, he sold incense sticks at bus stands and shunned mobile phones.

Fresh intelligence pointed to his frequent presence at public transport hubs. Surveillance teams began monitoring bus stands across the region, eventually receiving a tip that shifted their search to Bengaluru. For nearly a week, officers discreetly observed incense-stick vendors in and around Madiwala Market.

Their patience paid off when they identified Rafiq. Though he initially gave a fake name, an Aadhaar card retrieved from his bag confirmed his true identity. Confronted with the evidence, he admitted to committing the 2004 murder.

Rafiq has since been arrested and remanded in judicial custody, bringing a long-elusive fugitive back within the reach of law after 22 years on the run.

More women needed to humanize Indian journalism: K.V. Prabhakar

BENGALURU

Prabhakar noted the rise of women journalists, urged them to enter political reporting, satire, and cartoons, highlighting their unique insight into family, society, and leadership.

Chief Minister's Media Advisor K.V. Prabhakar on Friday called for reducing male dominance in journalism and increasing the number of women reporters, especially in political reporting. He said more women in the profession would bring honesty, empathy, and balance in news reporting.

Speaking at the Shri Siddaramaiah Endowment Award ceremony organised by the Karnataka Women Journalists' Association at Gandhi Bhavan, Prabhakar honoured senior journalist Sushila Subramanya and Prajavani reporter M.H. Neela. He said women express stories with deeper social feeling, which makes journalism healthier and more people friendly.

Prabhakar noted that earlier there were very few women journalists, but now their number has grown. However, he said most of them are limited to magazines and special supplements. He urged them to enter political reporting, satire writing, and cartoon creation in large numbers. He added that women, who understand family and society closely, can read politics better and question leaders more strongly.

He also shared that during the COVID-19 crisis, countries led by women handled the situation better with care and humanity. He said there is no example of women starting wars easily, but there are many examples of women handling tough situations bravely, from Kittur Rani Chennamma to Indira Gandhi.

Prabhakar warned that chasing news only for sensation will damage the profession. He stressed that freedom of expression should help society, not harm it.

He praised the Women Journalists Association for uniting women from different media fields and urged them to conduct state-level talent searches to find future political analysts and editors.

He also said the Siddaramaiah government is listening to women journalists' demands and has already included a journalist in the Media Academy.

The event was chaired by senior journalist Purnima and attended by retired Justice Nagamohan Das, Pushpa Girimaji, Padma Shivamogga, Manjula Kadakola, and others. The awardees were praised for their lifelong dedication and fearless reporting.

Somashekar emphasized developing lakes in Bangalore to provide drinking water, support agriculture, and help villagers overcome water shortages

MLA Somashekar launches lake development project for farmers

KENGERI

MLA S.T. Somashekar announced plans to develop lakes in rural areas to benefit farmers and local communities. Speaking at the launch of the Chinnajji Lake development work in Lingapur village under K. Gollahalli Gram Panchayat in the Yeshwantpur assembly constituency, he emphasized the importance of lakes as a vital water source.

Somashekar highlighted that lake water provides drinking water to rural residents and supports agricultural activities. He added that developing lakes across Bangalore City district will help collect rainwater, reducing water shortages for farmers and villagers. "When the lakes are restored and filled, people and farmers will be able to overcome the water crisis effectively," he said.

The event saw participation from several local dignitaries, including K. Gollahalli Gram Panchayat President Ratnamma, Vice President Madhu K.M., former President K.M. Mahesh, and community leaders Krishnamurthy (Kitty) and Govindaraju. Other attendees included Bangalore South Taluk TAPCMS Vice President Anil Kumar, Milk Producers Cooperative Association President Anand Kumar, former Taluk Panchayat member K.Y. Shivanna, and PDO Narendra Babu.

The initiative is expected to not only improve water availability but also promote sustainable agriculture and support the livelihoods of local residents. The MLA urged continued community involvement in lake conservation efforts to ensure long-term benefits. This project is part of a broader plan to strengthen water resources and enhance living conditions in rural areas.

Bengaluru North invites citizens for footpath walk

BENGALURU

Bengaluru North City Corporation is organizing the 5th Footpath Walk under its "Walkaluru" initiative to promote pedestrian safety, smooth mobility, and walkable streets in the city. The community-driven 7 km walk will focus on the Thanisandra area, helping identify locations that need improvement and encouraging public participation in enhancing pedestrian infrastructure. The walk will begin at 7:30 AM on Saturday, November 29, starting from Indira Canteen on Thanisandra Main Road. Residents are invited to join the corporation's team, led by Commissioner Sri Pommala Sunil Kumar, to walk alongside fellow citizens and contribute ideas for safer and more accessible streets.

Corporation clears footpath encroachments to ease city walks

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru South Municipal Corporation carried out a special drive to remove illegal footpath encroachments in Uttarahalli and Koramangala, following repeated complaints from residents and commuters. The operation aimed to improve safety and ease movement for pedestrians who were facing daily trouble due to blocked walkways.

Officials said many shop owners, street vendors, and temporary stall operators had occupied public footpaths, forcing people to walk on busy roads. This had increased the risk of accidents, especially for children, elderly people, and office goers. After reviewing the situation and receiving instructions from senior authorities, the corporation decided to take strict action.

In Uttarahalli, the clearance drive was conducted from Anagha Grand Hotel to the road leading to Sri Guru Raghavendra Swamy Math. In Koramangala, the operation covered the stretch from Forum Mall to the water tank area. These locations were identified as heavily encroached zones where people faced major inconvenience.

During the drive, officials removed nine pushcarts, four advertisement poles, two makeshift shelters, two temporary stands, and several unauthorized advertisement boards and banners placed on public footpaths. The items were seized or taken away to clear the walking space.

The corporation said these actions were taken only after proper inspection and warnings to ensure fairness. Officials added that the main goal is not to harm livelihoods, but to maintain order and public safety. They appealed to vendors and shop owners to follow rules and avoid setting up stalls on footpaths.

The Executive Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineer, and other officers and staff members were present on the field to supervise the work. The corporation also warned that such operations will continue in other areas if illegal encroachments return.

Groundbreaking ceremony marks Cauvery statue project

BENGALURU

The Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Seva Trust in Laggere, Bengaluru, organized the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a Cauvery statue, marking the start of the ambitious project to honor the river.

Former minister and MLA from Mahalaxmi Layout, K. Gopalaiah, performed the groundbreaking rituals, officially commencing construction work. Speaking at the event, he emphasized the cultural and environmental importance of the Cauvery and the need to preserve public awareness of its significance.

The ceremony was attended by several dignitaries and local leaders. Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Seva Trust President Siddegowda, former BBMP member Manjula Narayanaswamy, and Congress leaders from Ar Ar Nagar constituency, including Narayanaswamy, Hanumantharayappa, and Patel Devaraj, were present. Trust officials and other community members also participated, showing strong local support for the project.

The Cauvery statue is planned as a landmark to inspire awareness about river conservation and local heritage. Organizers hope the monument will become a symbol of pride for residents of Laggere and Bengaluru at large. The project is expected to promote cultural activities while reminding citizens of the environmental importance of protecting rivers for future generations.

KEA announces dates for asst professor eligibility verification

BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has announced that document verification for candidates shortlisted in the provisional merit list of the Assistant Professor Eligibility Test, known as K-SET 25, will begin from November 29 and continue till December 6. The process will take place at the KEA office in Malleshwaram, Bengaluru, starting daily from 9:30 a.m. According to KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna, each subject has been given a specific date for verification. Candidates must attend only on the date fixed for their subject. They should bring all original certificates related to their education and category claims. These documents will be checked and verified by officials to confirm eligibility. Candidates who miss their subject-wise verification dates will get another chance on December 8 and December 9.

LEARNING FROM VALOR

Vishwa Vidyapeeth honors farmers, soldiers

BENGALURU

Vishwa Vidyapeeth conducted months of meaningful pre-event activities ahead of its annual mega programme "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" for the 2025–26 academic year. The initiative aimed to help students value the sacrifices of Indian soldiers and farmers through real life exposure and hands-on learning.

In the "Jai Jawan" segment, students visited Ladakh, the Kargil War Memorial, and the Hall of Fame. They watched the sound and light show on the Kargil War and paid tribute to fallen heroes. At the Know Your Army Mela and Turtuk border area, they learned about army life and national security.

In Punjab, they saw the Attari Border ceremony and felt deep national pride.

Students also visited INS Kadamba, the Officers Training Academy at Chennai, the Infantry School at Mhow, and the Cellular Jail in the Andaman Islands. They observed army drills, drone shows, rope training, and weapon handling under guidance. They attended the Agniveer passing out parade and learned about discipline and service. Sessions with defence officers, museum visits, and Aero India exposure gave them insight into modern military systems.

In the "Jai Kisan" segment, students worked on natural farms across Karnataka and nearby states. They helped prepare organic fertilizers like Jeevamrutha and Beejamrutha, sowed seeds, transplanted crops, and learned about water and soil care. They studied beekeeping, drip irrigation, millet farming, seed saving, jaggery making, and biogas production.

They also met traditional farmers, learned about desi cow breeds, and explored organic markets. Activities like mushroom growing, paddy planting, and kitchen gardening helped them bring farming skills home.

'Sanitation workers key to building brand Bengaluru'

BENGALURU

Chairman of the Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Commission, P. Raghu, said sanitation workers are the real strength behind making Bengaluru a clean and respected "Brand Bengaluru". He spoke during a direct interaction programme held at MTB Community Hall in Garudachar Palya, under the Bengaluru East City Corporation.

During the programme, pourakarmikas, loaders, cleaners, auto-tipper drivers and other sanitation staff shared their problems. They spoke about lack of basic facilities, recruitment delays, pending wages, PF issues, biometric attendance troubles, shortage of toilets, and delay in compensation to families of workers who died while on duty.

P. Raghu patiently heard all their concerns and directed officials to act quickly. He ordered the expansion of Suvidha rest rooms across the corporation area. He also asked for proper toilet and rest facilities at all mustering points.

QUICK READ

Special eye camp organized by MM Joshi Hospital

HUBBALLI

The eye, being one of the most vital sensory organs, requires regular care and attention. Recognizing this, the MM Joshi Institute of Ophthalmology has been actively promoting eye health, treatment, and awareness.

While patients regularly visit the hospital for check-ups, the staff has now taken eye care services directly to the community through special outreach camps. Recently, the institute conducted a successful eye screening camp at the Nagashanti Honda Showroom. During the camp, 54 people underwent OPD check-ups, and 17 individuals were advised to visit the hospital for further treatment and follow-up care. This initiative reflects the hospital's commitment to making eye care accessible and raising awareness about the importance of regular eye examinations.

Medical camp for special children on November 29

GADAG

A free medical evaluation camp for special needs children studying in government/aided primary and high schools in city zone from 1st to 12th class under SSA and RMSA scheme for the year 2025-26 has been organized on November 29 from 10 am to 4 pm at Government Higher Primary School, School No. 10, Dissimil Road, Behind Old Court. The Deputy Director and District Project Coordinator, Comprehensive Education Department has informed that children should be present with documents for the evaluation camp. For more information, BRC has requested to contact SP Prabhayammath mobile number 9886925752, KS Beleri Mo. 9538419782, ED Huggennavar Mo. 9535409502, Shashidhara V Chalageri Mo. 9972620132.

Siddaramaiah should remain CM: Thimmapura

HUBBALLI

Minister RB Thimmapura has opined that there will be no change in the state's leadership. He stated clearly that Siddaramaiah continues as Chief Minister and that the administration is running smoothly, defending the CM's position. Addressing reports of political confusion, the Minister clarified that he did not attend the recent cabinet meeting due to personal reasons. He emphasized that there is no uncertainty in state politics and that any perceived confusion exists only in media reports. When questioned about Mallikarjun Kharge's request for the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister to meet the party high command.

Lobbying intensifies for BTDA Chairman post in Bagalkot

The inconsistency of state government has not hindered the lobby by leaders to acquire the position left vacant

BAGALKOT

With the demise of MLA HY Meti, two posts have fallen vacant. While the by-election to the Bagalkot assembly seat has to be conducted within six months of the seat falling vacant, the post of the Chairman of Bagalkot Town Development Authority (BTDA) has also to be filled because Meti held the post. The bypoll to the assembly seat is expected to be held along with assembly elections to West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, but the pressure to fill the post of BTDA chairman by nominating a person is mounting. The aspirants have started lobbying for the post and are pulling strings. The BTDA has the responsibility of providing alternative sites for rehabiliation of those who have lost their land in the Upper Krishna Project and the work on developing 1,600 acres for Third Unit of Navanagar is in progress. BTDA has to distributed around 20,000 sites to the evacuees. To ensure that the work is not delayed or stalled, there is an urgent need to fill up the chairman's post and nominate two members to the BTDA. Navanagar is facing problems as cash-strapped BTDA, which was maintaining it, has given up. Waste disposal has become a big headache here.

When former MLA Veeranna Charantimath was BTDA chairman he had managed to keep a corpus fund of Rs 380 crore to facilitate BTDA to maintain Navanagar with the interest earned on the corpus fund.

However, the corpus fund was later withdrawn. Navanagar Unit 1 and 2 are to be handed over to Bagalkot Town Municipal Council but citing lack of funds and staff, the civic body is not ready to take over the new township.

This has hampered proper maintenance of Navanagar. Political power is needed to stremline the things and hence there is urgency to fill the BTDA chairman's post, said a leader. Meti's son Mallikarjun, Umesh and daughter Bayakka are aspiring for the post and have demanded that any one of them be nominated to the post.

Bull owners announce protest against govt restrictions

HAVERI

Haveri district bull owners and enthusiasts have announced a continuous protest starting December 6 against the state government's imposition of 18 conditions for bull-taming events during the festival season.

They stressed that the traditional rural sport, locally called Hori Habba, held from Deepavali to Makara Sankranti, deserves priority and financial support from the government. However, their repeated petitions have gone unanswered.

Haveri bull owners to launch continuous protest from December 6, demanding government approval for Hori Habba festival amid strict restrictions.

Police restrictions have now limited the conduct of Hori Habba in the district. Bull owners and supporters had submitted petitions to Deputy Commissioner Vijay Mahantesh Danammanavar and District Minister Shivanand Patil, but received no response, prompting the decision to stage a protest.

During a recent meeting, participants resolved to organize the protest and assigned responsibilities for its preparation.

Under the leadership of the Akhil Karnataka Raitara Janapada Kride Hori Habba Horata Samiti, a procession of bulls will be held on December 6, starting from Purasiddeshwara Temple, passing through MG Road, JP Circle, and JH Patel Circle, and culminating at the Deputy Commissioner's office.

"It is impossible to hold the festival while complying with all 18 government conditions. Although some conditions were waived after a plea to the DC and District Minister, there has been no official response. Hence, we decided to begin the protest," said Mariyappa Somapur, a bull owner.

Over 500 bulls are expected to join the procession.

Tents will be set up in front of the DC's office where the protest will continue, with arrangements for fodder and water for the animals.

The owners declared that the protest will continue until permission for the bull-taming events is granted.

Forest guard promotions stalled: Employees demand govt action

BELAGAVI

Promotions for forest guards and watchers in the Belagavi Forest Division remain stalled as the govt has not filled more than 100 vacant Deputy Range Forest Officer (DRFO) posts, all of which come under the promotion quota. The government published the final seniority list of Forest Guards on Aug 30, 2024, and promotions were expected soon after. However, the process has remained on hold for months despite several representations. Ground-level staff are left with no option but to struggle. This is now our most pressing grievance, employees said. With the legislature's winter session set to begin on December 8 in Belagavi, the employees have warned of staging protests if the govt does not take a decision by December 6. Wildlife activist Giridhar Kulkarni extended support to the guards and watchers, stating, They are the backbone of forest protection. The govt must consider their demands seriously. Since 2017, many officers have been serving in temporary postings, and staff say they should be promoted by now. They allege the vacancies are being retained on paper, delaying legitimate career progression. Employees also demanded the immediate finalisation and publication of the five-year-pending DRFO seniority list. They further claimed that officials promoted as DRFOs in other divisions and transferred to Belagavi have disrupted the service hierarchy and should be reverted to their parent cadres. A detailed representation outlining these issues was submitted to MLA Asif Sait, with employees urging him to intervene and press the govt for swift action.

Corporators demand probe into Hubballi Smart City irregularities

HUBBALLI

The Smart City project was meant to make Hubballi smart. The multi-crore project is now being scrapped through chaos and irregularities. As a proof of this, the members of the corporation have demanded a probe into all the works of the smart city after the report of the smart healthcare irregularities was submitted.Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation (HDMC) Congress member MM Bhadrapur has written a letter to the state government demanding a CID probe into all the works and maintenance of the Rs 1,000 crore Smart City project. He has written to the state government seeking a CID probe into the alleged irregularities in the Rs 3.26 crore Smart Healthcare project at Chittaguppi Hospital.

Still, the Smart City project has created a sense of frustration among the people of the twin cities. In this regard, there was a lot of resentment in the public sphere about the unscientific and disorganized smart city project. Though most of the work in the smart city has been completed, people are not getting the benefit of it. Besides fighting for this, the corporators said they would appeal to the CM during the winter session.

After the alleged irregularities in the Chitaguppi Smart Healthcare scheme came to light, he has demanded a thorough probe into the Smart City project. It remains to be seen whether the government will take any action in this regard.

Wildlife conservationist seeks probe into deaths of jumbos

BELAGAVI

Wildlife conservationist Giridhar Kulkarni has petitioned the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden, urging immediate action and a high-level inquiry into the electrocution deaths of two wild elephants in Nagargali Forest Range of the Belagavi division, part of the notified Dandeli Elephant Reserve. Kulkarni stated that while Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre already ordered a probe and sought action against negligent officials, the gravity of the incident demands an independent committee headed by an APCCF-rank officer to ensure a fair and thorough investigation.

The petition alleges that despite locals reporting elephant movement for over a month, forest officials failed to take preventive measures. It further claims that both the ACF and RFO were absent from headquarters at the time of the incident, raising questions about vigilance and compliance with statutory duties under the Karnataka Forest Code, 1976, as well as binding high court directions on preventing elephant deaths. Citing repeated elephant fatalities in North Karnataka, including electrocutions in Nersa, Yellapur, and Ambika Nagar, and train collisions in Nagargali and Golihalli, Kulkarni said the pattern points to systemic lapses the high court previously cautioned against.The petition seeks verification of whether the ACF and RFO fulfilled mandatory duties such as submission of weekly diaries, inspections of vulnerable locations, planning of patrols, coordination with Hescom, responding to conflict alerts, conducting awareness programmes, and issuing preventive instructions to staff.

Farmers receive Rs 28.8 crore compensation for rainfall damage

HAVERI

Farmers in district received a total of Rs 28.8 crore in compensation for crop losses caused by excessive rainfall this year, said Shivanand Patil, Minister for Textiles, Sugarcane development, Sugar and Agricultural Marketing, and district in-charge.

Speaking at a press conference at the Deputy Commissioner's office, he said crops over 16,801 hectares were damaged in the district. Of the total compensation, Rs 14.6 crore was already paid through DBT to 33,726 farmers under SDRF guidelines. The Chief Minister and the Revenue Minister initiated the deposit of an additional Rs 14.1 crore at the rate of Rs 8,500 per hectare to 33,725 farmers.

The district administration conducted a joint survey of rain-fed, irrigated and horticultural crops to ensure appropriate compensation. Apart from the SDRF, the chief minister approved additional compensation of Rs 8,500 per hectare, sanctioning Rs 1,033 crore for crop loss compensation across 27 districts in the state, the Minister claimed. Responding to a media question about the support price for maize, he said that due to good rainfall this year, maize, sugarcane and paddy were cultivated in larger quantities. Setting the support price is the responsibility of the central government, and they must do it from time to time. We are ready to implement what they decide, and no one should politicise farmers' issues, he clarified.

Deputy speaker of the legislative assembly Rudrappa Manappa Lamani, Deputy Commissiobner Vijay Mahantesh Danammanavar, Belagavi Deputy Commissiobner Mohammad Roshan, Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Ruchi Bindal, Superintendent of Police Yashoda Vantagodi and others attended the press conference.

Debt-ridden farmer dies by suicide

BELAGAVI

In a shocking incident, a farmer committed suicide by hanging himself at Tamvashi village in Athani taluk of district. Kantesh Pandu Kumbara (35), a farmer from Tamvashi village, committed suicide by hanging himself from a neem tree near the Ganesh temple in Kumbara Garden on the outskirts of Tamvashi village.

The deceased Kantesh had been suffering from debt for a long time. A total of Rs 15,00,000 has been deposited in Nationalised Banks, Finance, Co-operative Banks, Associational Banks, etc. The concerned have given information about the loan (fifteen lakhs). He is survived by his wife and three daughters. Kantesh's wife, who died after losing her husband, has committed suicide due to debt and has pleaded with the government to help her for the future of her children.

A case of suicide has been registered at Athani police station.

PROTECT KANNADA MEDIUM SCHOOLS

AIDSO demand to abandon new model magnet scheme

BELAGAVI

Mahantesh Billur, the district coordinator of the All India Democratic Students Organization (AIDSO), alleged that the state government is trying to completely privatise education by implementing a new model magnet scheme in the name of school development. He urged the government to immediately abandon this new model magnet scheme and provide teachers and necessary infrastructure to the existing government schools. Speaking to media, Mahantesh said there is no doubt that the magnet scheme the government is going to implement will deprive poor children of education. Due to the existing schools, even though there are fewer children in forest and hilly areas, they are getting education in government schools. If this scheme is implemented, such schools will be merged with these new model schools, and children will be deprived of education. Therefore, this scheme is fatal for Kannada schools, he said.The purpose of this new model magnet scheme is to close more than 40,000 govt schools in the state he claimed. However, the government and the School Education Minister are clarifying that no government schools will be closed. On the other hand, he complained that the govt has already prepared a list of magnet schools and which Kannada schools within its jurisdiction should be included in these magnet schools. The government has prepared a list to start more than 1,000 of these magnet schools across the state, including 2,283 Kannada schools in district, during the next academic year.

If the schools start anyway, there is a risk of closing more than 40,000 government Kannada schools across the state. Therefore, he urged the people of the state to be vigilant and join the struggle to prevent this plan from being implemented.

Vinush Bhagwan, Swati Chikkamath, and Lakkappa Bijjanavar were present.

FORMER MLA AMRUTA DESAI BEGINS PADAYATRA

DHARWAD: Former MLA Amruta Desai started his 9th padayatra from Madivaleshwara Mutt in Garaga village to Sri Kshetra Ulavi. Before the start of the padayatra, special pujas were performed to the author of Garagada Madivaleshwara Gadduge. Later, Amruta Desai and his wife Priya Desai performed the pooja at the feet of Dr. Mallikarjuna Swamiji of Murugha Mutt, Vachanananda Swamiji of Harihara Mutt and many other seers in the presence of Atmarama Mahaswamiji, the successor of Madivaleshwara Kal Mutt in Garaga village. After the foot pooja, all the abbots started the padayatra and walked a short distance. Hundreds of people took part in the march. Arrangements have also been made for drinking water, food, refreshments and medical arrangements to ensure that the devotees do not face any problem during the padayatra. Many people showered flowers on the devotees at various places in Garaga village and greeted them for the padayatra. Amruta Desai's father and former MLA Ayyappa Desai, Garaga Sri Mutt working president Ashok Desai, office bearers and members of the trust committee of the Mutt and devotees from various villages of Dharwad taluk including Hangaraki.

QUICK READ

Students selected for national level skipping competition

DHARWAD

Students from Phoenix and Pawan School have been selected for the national level skipping competition to be held in Telangana. These students have been selected for the national level skipping competition by winning a gold medal in the state level competition. Thavanappa Ashtagi, former President of the Bayalu Seema Area Development Board, distributed jerseys to the selected students. He also distributed sweets to all the students and wished them to hoist the flag of Dharwad at the national level as well.

Auto drivers protest against renaming of road

HUBBALLI

The North Karnataka Auto Drivers' Owners' Association protested against the removal of the Dr. Rajkumar Circle in front of Sir Siddappa Kambali in city and putting up a nameplate as Koppikara Road, denouncing the work done by the Municipal Corporation to tarnish the name of the famous Kannada actor Dr Rajkumar. Koppikara Road was named Dr Rajkumar Road. But the municipal corporation officials have again put up a nameplate as Koppikara Road, insulting the great actor. The Auto Drivers Association and Kannada organizations, which protested against this, should immediately put up a nameplate as Dr Rajkumar Road as before, otherwise, there will be a fierce struggle in the coming days, the Auto Drivers' Association warned.

Blood tests to detect drug addicts, Police Commissioner committed to a drug-free

We do not treat students found with drugs as criminals. Instead, we treat them as victims, said Police Commissioner Bhushan Borase

BELAGAVI

Young people are ruining their future by becoming drug addicts. Taking this seriously, City Police Commissioner Bhushan Borase has taken a pledge to make Belagavi drug-free. In that regard, he has initiated a blood test experiment on students in schools and colleges to detect drug use.

Youth are the country's assets. If they fall into addictions like drug use at school and college levels, their future will be ruined. Youth are the target of drug traffickers. Due to this, many parents are losing their children and washing their hands in tears. City Police Commissioner Bhushan Borase, realizing this, has declared war on drugs.

In the last six months, 50 cases have been registered in connection with drug sales and more than 100 accused have been arrested. The accused, who had been selling drugs for 30 years, has been jailed under the NDPS Act through the head office. He has also cracked down on other gangs selling drugs in Belgaum and given them a scare. Now, Belgaum police have come up with a novel experiment in the country to identify students who are using drugs, guide them properly and bring them back on the right path. City Police Commissioner Bhushan Borase said that it is unfortunate and a matter of concern that college students including 9th and 10th graders are addicted to drugs. Therefore, the proposal sent to the Belgaum Deputy Commissioner to allow blood testing of school and college students has been approved. He explained that the Deputy Commissioner has written a letter to the DDPI and DDPU in this regard and directed them to conduct a medical examination of the students. Deputy Director, Department of Undergraduate Education said, drugs are very dangerous for the youth, and we have already formed anti-drug clubs under the chairmanship of the principals in all government, aided and unaided pre-university colleges. Now we will strictly implement the blood testing program that the Police Commissioner is going to start in all colleges. There is an urgent need to completely prevent drug abuse, he said.

SS Hadimani, Vice Principal, Government Sardar's High School also spoke.

7 km long Kannada flag sets world record

DAVANAGERE

The Kannada flag set a world record by ringing Kannada dindamava in the city on Friday. This programme organised by the Kannada Movement Central Committee as part of Kannada Rajyotsava testified that it was a day to be written in golden letters.

In Davanagere, in central Karnataka, the 7 km long Kannada flag made by the Akhil Kannada Movement Central Committee in collaboration with BS Channabasappa and Sons created a world record on Friday. In the city's Jayadeva Circle, Deputy Commissioner GM Gangadharaswamy flagged off the Kannada flag procession. Various art groups and Bhuvaneshwari, Immadi Pulikeshi, Siddaganga Math, Glass House, Santhebennur Pushkarani. The procession, which moved with the still images of Patel, moved through various parts of the city, beating Kannada drums and making an impression on the minds of Kannadigas. The procession passed through the city's ITI College Circle, Vidyanagar Gandhi Circle, Gundi Circle, Sharadamba Temple Circle, Ring Road Circle, PB Road and reached AVK Road and from there it came to Jayadeva Circle from Ambedkar Circle. As part of the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava, the 7 km long Kannada flag was launched with a historic procession. About 15 thousand students from various schools and colleges carried the flag for a distance of 7 km.

The flag was included in the world record page in the London World Book of Records. The state president of the Committee, Gurudev Narayana Kumar, hoisted the flag, while National Youth Award winner BK Manjunath Maganahalli handed over the flag. Mrinal Bankapura, head of BS Channabasappa and Sons, participated as a special guest.

Preparations underway for Dalai Lama's visit to Uttara Kannada

UTTARA KANNADA

As Nobel Peace Prize laureate Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama is arriving at the Mundagod Tibetan Colony here on December 12, preparations are underway in the Tibetan area to welcome him. The Tibetan Colony is now decorated in the style of Tibetan culture. The roads that have not been repaired for many years are being asphalted. The monasteries in the colony are being decorated with whitewash. Banners and cutouts welcoming the Dalai Lama are appearing on every road in the colony. Thousands of Tibetans here, who had migrated to various places including Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Delhi, Chennai, and Himachal Pradesh for business, are now returning to their homes in droves as their spiritual leader is making his debut. The Tibetan colony near Mundagoda, which is ready to welcome the Dalai Lama with its red-robed monks walking in groups, attractive Tibetan-style buildings, banners and cutouts

A festive atmosphere will be created in the premises throughout Dalai Lama's stay at Mundagod.

adorning Buddhist temples, has further enhanced the beauty of the Tibetan colony. Located about 5 km from the town, this Tibetan colony is visited by thousands of Tibetans every day. In addition, thousands of foreign followers of the Dalai Lama are also seen arriving. The Tibetan colony, which is full of attractive Buddhist monasteries and a famous place for making carpets, is a center of attraction for tourists. Tourists used to come from all over the place every day. But now that the Dalai Lama is coming, his followers are coming from all over the country and abroad, and a fair atmosphere has been created in the Tibetan colony.

Thousands of Tibetans from far-off places like Mysore, Dharamshala, Delhi, Dehradun, and Manali are coming here to have darshan of the Dalai Lama. The Dalai Lama, who is arriving here on December 12 for a 45-day visit, will create a festive atmosphere in the colony during his stay here.

Many dignitaries, including chief ministers and governors of various states, are expected to arrive with the Dalai Lama.

'Religion and politics are like the relationship between a palace and a Guru's house'

HAVERI

Indians are more intelligent than the people of all countries. If our children are given a chance, they will rule the world. This is India's era, former Chief Minister and MP Basavaraj Bommai said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has the resolve to make India a developed country by 2047.

Jagadguru Panchacharya of Bisanalli village in Shiggavi taluk of district participated as the chief guest and spoke at the Manav Dharma Samavesh organised in the divine presence of Jagadguru Panchacharya in the premises of Veda, Agama, Sanskrit, Music, Yoga and Astrology Pathashala.This is a holy land Kashi Bisanalli became a holy land when Jagadguru started the pathashala. Hundreds of young students are becoming experts in Agama, Vedas, Sanskrit, and astrology. Think about what will happen to our country if we do not prepare those who will teach culture and tradition to the next generation. The previous ones have done this. We have been able to understand our lives naturally through the words of the Most Revered One. This is a continuous cultural movement, and the Kashi Jagadguru is doing a pious deed. Crores of bows to his feet, he said. A person's life lasts from the womb of the mother to the womb of the mother earth. Secondly, the relationship before birth is not only with the mother, nor with the father, nor with the elder brothers and sisters, the greatest relationship of mother is before birth, therefore we call it the mother's love, the mother's debt. The love is born from the mother, no matter how rich and powerful the person may be. But no one can have a debt-free life. The debt of parents, father, brothers, teachers, teachers who taught us, children, the debt of love given by children cannot be paid. It is impossible to be free from debt, Bommai said.

On this occasion, Shambhulinga Shivacharya Mahaswamy of Sindagi Math, Hotanahalli, Dr Rajashekar Shivacharya Mahaswamy of Kashi Khasa Shaka Math, Navanagar, Dr Neelkanth Shivacharya Mahaswamy of Amareshwara Brahma Math, Guledagudda, Vishwaradhya Shivacharya Mahaswamy of Murughendra Math, Hiremanakatti, Vishweshwara Shivacharya Mahaswamy of Hire Math, Hirebendigeri and Shambanna Mamlepattanashettar were present along with many prominent figures and leaders.

State-of-the-art treatment available at Chitaguppi hospital

HUBBALLI

When it comes to government hospitals, it is doubtful how they will be treated there. In contrast, the Chitaguppi Hospital is providing facilities to private hospitals in the form of sheds and excellent medical treatment. He has saved the lives of hundreds of patients by performing the surgery.For the past three years, it has been continuously serving poor patients by receiving medical equipment donated by donors and organizations.

The Chief Medical Officer Dr Sridhar Dandeppa's hard work, his concern for poor patients and his passion to make government hospitals no less than private hospitals are a testimony to his passion.

The poor and middle class are getting almost free health care here, and donations from donors, associations and organizations have increased the medical strength of the hospital. It has state-of-the-art facilities, including outpatient prescriptions, separate treatment units, seating arrangements, medicine stores, various specialist doctors, everything has been changed in the last three years. Modern medical equipment and equipment are being used to serve the poor patients. Every day, 500-600 outpatients and 100 in-patients are being treated. Specialist doctors from different hospitals are being called to treat the patients.

Emergency Care and Recovery Centre inaugurated

GADAG

The "Emergency Care and Recovery Centre (ECRC)" for homeless persons suffering from severe mental illness was inaugurated at KH Patil Institute of Medical Sciences, Mallasamudra.

The KH Patil Institute of Medical Sciences Principal Dr Raju, Medical Superintendent Dr Rekha Sonawane, Deputy Medical Superintendent Dr Somashekar Bijjala, District Health and Family Welfare Officer Dr SS Neelgund, District Leprosy Eradication Officer Dr Rajendra Basarigida inaugurated the facility.

ECRC, in collaboration with Aladamara Foundation Sarathi Sanstha Hirehandigol will provide free emergency and high-quality treatment to homeless people wandering aimlessly on the streets suffering from severe mental illness on Thursday and provide free help until recovery, food and care, medicine. The address information of those who have recovered will be obtained and helped to reach them.

The public is requested to take advantage of this.

Head of Psychiatry Dr Girish Nagaral, Dr Jitendra Mugali, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry Dr Fakkirappa Ganigera, President of Medical Sarathi Sanstha MB Jakkanagoudra.

Director of Sarathi Sanstha RH Patil, Sarathi Society Secretary KG Lamani and staff of the District Health and Family Welfare Department and staff of KH Patil Institute of Medical Sciences were present.

National Epilepsy Day-2025 Inaugurated

GADAG

The National Epilepsy Day was inaugurated under the joint auspices of the District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, District Health and Family Welfare Department, Karnataka Brain Health Initiative Division, KH Patil Institute of Medical Sciences, under the chairmanship of Police Inspector Siddaramaiah Gadeda of the Rural Police Station. The police personnel informed about maintaining a balance in health along with physical activity and daily work habits and advised to take advantage of the Kabhi programme. Praveen S. Ronada, the District Coordinator of the Kabhi programme, created awareness about the objectives and goals of the Kabhi program and directed the patients with epilepsy symptoms to get treatment at the district hospital. He advised to get treatment at Rs 105 and stay healthy. He also advised to avail tele-neurology tele-rehab and personal consultation facilities for patients. Dr Ashwini M Kuri, physiotherapist of Kabhi programme, spoke and created awareness about physical therapy and physical health along with doing daily activities and exercises according to this disease. Ravi Nandyal, Podiatrist of Kabhi program, spoke about epilepsy treatment and told patients with epilepsy to write about their daily routine of seizures and if these symptoms are found.

VALUE BASED EDUCATION

KLS IMER LAUNCHES 'WELLNESS 360 SERIES'

BELAGAVI

KLS Institute of Management Education and Research (KLS IMER) launched the "Wellness 360 Series" program on Friday, an initiative aimed at fostering holistic health and well-being among management students and staff. The series will have 10 sessions by professional doctors from different specialties as curated by Dr. Sathe's Aarogya Mitra Foundation.

The event commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries and student representatives, symbolizing the

pursuit of knowledge and wellness. The Director Dr Arif Shaikh, in his introductory remark emphasized the growing need for emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual well-being in today's dynamic academic and professional environment.

Dr Shailaja Hiremath, Associate Professor, introduced the purpose and vision of the Centre for Ethics and Social Responsibility and IQAC, highlighting the institution's commitment to nurturing responsible, mindful, and resilient future leaders. Membership of the Centre was formally presented to new batch students Mr. Rohit Patil and Deepa Khatawkar.

The keynote address was delivered by the distinguished resource person, Dr Varsha Rahul Sathe, Founder of Aarogya Mitra Foundation. With deep expertise in dentistry, nutrition, preventive healthcare, and wellness coaching, Dr Sathe spoke on the importance of adopting a comprehensive, 360-degree approach to well-being. She encouraged students to integrate mindful practices into their personal and professional lives.

The event concluded with a question and answer session followed by a vote of thanks from Ms. Radhika Itigekar, appreciating the contributions of the resource person, the Director, faculty, organizing committee, and student participants.

The Wellness 360 Series marks another step in KLS IMER's continuous efforts to promote value-based education and holistic development among its students.

Notorious gang of robbers enter city, people shocked

HUBBALLI

A notorious gang of robbers has been spotted in the heart of the commercial city. The robbers, armed with face masks and sticks, sticks and rods in their hands, targeted houses in the middle of the night. An attempt was made to rob two houses in Pearl Layout in Keshavpur on Thursday night. Locals were shocked to hear the iron gate of the houses breaking and immediately informed the police. On receiving the information, the beat police rushed to the spot and found six dacoits hiding in the compound of the house. But as soon as the police whistle sounded, the robbers escaped in front of their eyes. The police suspect that the infamous 'Bangla Gang' may have entered Hubballi due to the modus operandi of the attack.

The police have appealed to the citizens to be extra careful as the gang has a tendency to target houses empty at night and if they resist, there is a possibility of danger to their lives. The entry of the new gang has created an atmosphere of fear among the residents of the area.

QUICK READ

Applications open for rural resettlement worker posts

Chitradurga

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens has invited applications for vacant Rural and Urban Resettlement Worker positions in Chitradurga district. Eligible candidates aged 18 to 45 with disabilities can apply for nine rural posts across four taluks' Gram Panchayats and for urban posts in Holalkere and Hosadurga municipalities. Selected candidates will receive a monthly honorarium of ₹10,000. Applicants must have passed SSLC and can obtain application forms from Multi-Purpose Resettlement Workers at respective taluk offices, submitting completed forms to the same. Vacancies include Siddapura and Sirigere (Chitradurga), Nagagondanahalli and Tuppadahalli (Holalkere), Gannanayakanahalli and Kasturi Ranganappanahalli Ranganathpura (Hiriyur), Chikka Byaladakere and Hunavindhu (Hosadurga). For details, contact the District Officer for Welfare of Persons with Disabilities, Chitradurga, at 08194-235284.

Action against sale of ration rice in black market

Vijayapura

The Department of Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs distributes 10 kg of rice per eligible member free of cost under the NFSA and Anna Bhagya schemes through the public distribution system to Endowment and Priority ration cardholders. Officials have warned that if this free ration rice is found being sold in black markets, strict action will be taken. In such cases, the ration card will be suspended for six months, and a fine equivalent to the market price of the rice will be imposed, as per government orders. The announcement emphasizes the importance of using subsidized food grains solely for the benefit of entitled beneficiaries and preventing misuse.

Street play highlights health awareness initiatives

Chitradurga

A street play on national health programs and World Toilet Day was staged at J.J. Hatti in Chitradurga on Friday by the Manvita Folk Arts troupe, titled "Our Toilet – Our Future." The event, organized by the District Health and Family Welfare Department and the Taluk Health Officer's office, was inaugurated by Taluk Health Officer Dr. B.V. Girish. Dr. Girish highlighted maternal and child care, immunization drives, and issues related to infant and maternal mortality. He also announced the upcoming pulse polio program from December 21 to 24. District Health Education Officer Krishnanayak emphasized the importance of sanitation and personal hygiene, urging citizens to use toilets regularly to ensure health and social well-being as part of the "Our Toilet – Our Future" campaign, running until December 10. Deputy District Health Education Officer Gouramma demonstrated preventive measures for tuberculosis, leprosy, infectious, and non-infectious diseases.

Mega Lok Adalat on Dec 13 in Chikkaballapur district

Chikkaballapura district will hold a grand National Lok Adalat on December 13

CHIKKABALLAPUR

A grand National Lok Adalat will be held on December 13 across all courts in Chikkaballapura district to speedily dispose of pending cases, announced Principal District and Sessions Judge and District Legal Services Authority Chairman T.P. Ramalingegowda.

Speaking at a press meet organized by the District Legal Services Authority on Friday, he said that citizens who pay fines for traffic and other compoundable violations by December 12 will get a 50% rebate on the penalty amount.

Currently, around 48,000 cases are pending in various courts of the district. Of these, 6,900 cases have already been identified for the Lok Adalat, and about 10,000 cases are expected to be taken up by December 12. The target is to settle 8,000–10,000 cases on December 13 itself.

Cases including compoundable criminal matters, bank recovery, motor accident claims, labour disputes, electricity & water bill issues, salary & service matters, matrimonial disputes, cheque bounce, revenue, civil and other negotiable cases will be resolved through compromise. Free legal advice and guidance will also be provided.

The Judge urged the public to first approach the concerned department or officer to resolve grievances. If unsatisfied, they may contact the District Legal Services Authority, Taluk Legal Services Committees, or mediation centres.

He emphasized that Lok Adalat settlements are quick, cost-effective, permanent, and help maintain relationships while reducing enmity and promoting social harmony.

People wishing to settle cases in the December 13 Lok Adalat may contact the District Legal Services Authority or Taluk Legal Services Committees in advance.

Senior Civil Judge and DLSA Member Secretary Shalpaya were present at the press conference.

Graduate Constituency voter list sees surge in registration

CHITRADURGA

The district has six assembly constituencies, with the Bangalore Division Regional Commissioner serving as the election officer for Agneya Padavidhar.

Secretary of the Election Commission, Suman Kumar Das, emphasized the importance of improving the voter list preparation process, particularly for graduate and teacher constituencies, which historically see lower participation compared to assembly and parliamentary elections. Many eligible voters often remain unregistered, and the Commission is actively exploring ways to simplify and streamline registration so that every eligible individual can be included.

On Friday, Secretary Das visited the District Commissioner's office to review preparations for finalizing the voter list in the Agneya Padavidhar constituency. Following the 2016 Supreme Court directive, preparations for graduate and teacher constituency elections begin one year in advance, giving ample time for registration. To make the process more accessible and transparent, suggestions were invited from assistant election officers across these constituencies nationwide.

During the registration drive from September 30 to November 6, 37,976 Form-18 applications were submitted in Agneya Padavidhar, a significant increase from the 21,024 voters recorded in 2020. Of these, 211 applications were rejected, and 567 applications from other districts were accepted. The draft voter list, published on November 18, now lists 37,198 registered voters. Secretary Das commended officials for their efforts in promoting registration.

The recent social and educational survey also supported the initiative. Enumerators collected educational data from households and raised awareness about voter registration among graduates.

Pratibha Karanji showcases student talent and growth

CHITRADURGA

The "Pratibha Karanji" initiative by the Education Department serves as an excellent platform to bring out the true talent of students. Chitradurga Cluster Education Officer H. Girija emphasized that students' skills must be identified and selected fairly.

The program was inaugurated at the Sampige Siddheshwara School premises as part of the Chitradurga West Cluster Pratibha Karanji. DCC Bank directors and local advisory committee member Kogunde Dyamanna highlighted that such platforms guide students toward a meaningful future. By freely showcasing their talents, students can contribute to their holistic development, helping build a skilled India of tomorrow.

Cluster Coordinator Sampath Kumar said student life is invaluable, and opportunities like these should be fully utilized. Programs like Pratibha Karanji help identify exceptional talents at the district, state, and national levels.

Resource person Ajay Kumar noted that over 750 students from 32 schools participated in various competitions. These students were selected at the school level and brought here for further evaluation. He congratulated the adjudicators for their responsibility in identifying talented students and teachers for training them effectively at the school stage.

KHRC member urges officials to uphold human rights

VIJAYAPURA

S.K. Ontigodi, member of the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission, urged officials to address public grievances with empathy and ensure human rights are protected at every level. Speaking at a taluk-level officials' meeting held at the Basavan Bagwadi Municipal Hall on Thursday, he emphasized that the Commission's primary objective is to safeguard human rights, prevent violations, and provide timely redressal.

Ontigodi advised officials to take prompt action on local public issues, resolving them at their level while maintaining a humane approach.

He stressed that the dignity and respect of human rights must be upheld, and government services should reach genuine beneficiaries effectively. Officials were reminded to remain vigilant to prevent any violation of rights under all circumstances.

He highlighted the importance of ensuring basic amenities, including safe drinking water, proper drainage, solid waste disposal, and adequate sanitation facilities in schools and hostels. Officials were instructed to verify that essential infrastructure reaches intended recipients and that all preventive measures are in place to maintain human rights standards.

CHANGE OF NAME

I DHANALAKSHMAMMA W/O RAVIKRISHNA H, R/O No 44, 1st Main 6th Cross, Behind Syndicate Bank Colony, S V G Nagar Moodalapalya, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore North, Karnataka - 560072, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as LAKSHMAMMA.

CHANGE OF NAME

I GOVIND S/O PARMONO KUMAR R/O C-604, DSR Spring Beauty Apartments, ITPL Main Road, Brookefield, Marathahalli, Doddanekkundi, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560037, have changed the name of my minor son ANANT MEHRA aged 5 years and he shall hereafter be known as ANANT MEHRA SINGH.

ADVERTISEMENT

I, Mrs. K.M. Jayalakshmi, aged about 53 years, wife of N. Mohan, residing at Sri Mata Nilaya, 194, Kanakapura Town, Ward No. 27, 4th Cross, Vivekanandanagar, Kanakapura Taluk, Bangalore South District, am a resident of the above address.
2 : The Bangalore City Co - Operative Housing Society Limited. Through its President Shri T N Seshagiri and Secretary Bharathi, the sale deed is registered in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Kengeri, Bangalore, as Document Book -1, No.: KNK-1-37307-2003-04 in CD No. KenKD38 dated: 20-03-2004 have extended sale deed and is a pure purchase. On: 01-08-2025, while cleaning our house, the sale deed was accidentally lost. Despite much searching, it could not be found. I have also filed a complaint with the concerned police station for the same. Complaint No.: 1914638/2025, the above facts are true and I have made a affidavit in the presence of Ramachandra Advocate and Notary on 21.11.2025.
If anyone finds it, they can contact the mobile number below.
9845198573

Town Municipal Council Chikodi

SL:TMC:CKD:AMRIT:2025-26 Date:27.11.2025

(KPP Portal) Tender notification
(Notice inviting tender through KPP Portal)

Town Municipal Council Chikodi invites tender for Manufacturer or Authorized Dealer or Supplier in KG-3 Document for work under Jal Hi Amrit 2.0 Grant 1) Indent No 5452/call-3 Rs. 75.00 lakh, Work period 3 month.
SL No:1:Last Date & Time for Tender document download:27.11.2025,SL No:2:Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders:04.12.2025 @ 4.00 PM,SL No:3:Date & Time for Opeiving of Technical Bid:06.12.2025 @ 4.00 PM,SL No:4:Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid:08.12.2025 @ 11.00 AM,SL No:5:Number of days to extend:2 Days
Above tender work details are in available KPPP website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and TMC website www.chikoditown.mrc.gov.in.

Sd/-Chief Officer TMC Chikodi

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1400/KSMCA/2025-26

CH CLASSIFIEDS
To place a classified ad contact:
080-41209042

NAME CHANGE

I, **MUNEER AHMED**, S/o Vezeer Sab H P, resident of No. Apartment No 12/3, 1st Main Cross L R Bande Road, Appajiappa Layout, Shampura, A C post Bengaluru - 560045, Have changed my name to **MUNEER AHMED H N**, vide affidavit dated: 28.11.2025, before Notary MEER HASSAN, Bangalore

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ– 562114
ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ : 27931759, ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 27931221,
Email: itstaff_ulb_hosakote@yahoo.com Web Site.www.hosakotecity.mrc.gov.in
ನಂ:ನಸಹೊ/ಆಶಾ/ಘವನಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್/10/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.11.2025

"ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ" (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು ನಗರಸಭೆ ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಇವರಿಂದ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ್ ಮಿಷನ್ 2.0 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಏಕ/ದ್ವಿ–ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಡಿ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ /ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ
01	DMA/2025-26/SE5896/Call-4	15.00	37,500/–
02	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT52011	125.14	1,87,710/–

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/portal/portal-home** ನಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.
2) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪರಿಸರ) ರವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/4063/ಶರಡಿಸಾಯಿ/2025–26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(District Urban Development Cell)
Kalaburagi District, Kalaburagi, Phone No: 08472 – 278604 Fax no: 08472 – 278602
E-mail: ka.kalaburagi.dudc@gmail.com & itstaff_dudc_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.DUDC/Amrut Nagarothana(Mun)-4/INC 5%/59/2025-26 Date: 28.11.2025

CALL-2 TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Deputy Commissioner Office Kalaburagi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal in two cover system using **KW-4 document** from Eligible PWD Civil Contractors for **Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality)-4 Incentive 5% Grant** Kalaburagi District Package works as detailed below:

Sl. No 01) **Description of Work,** Providing and Erection of Designer Electrical Poles and Centre Median at Lodging Cross to Bus Depo in **Chittapur Town.TENDER NO:- DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT49870/ CALL-2 Amount put to Tender(Rs. In Lakhs) 100.61** (Excluding GST), **EMD Amount(Rs.) 1,51,000/- Class of Contractor** Eligible PWD registered contractor **Period of completion excluding rainy season** 6 Months from the date of award.

Contractors can download and submit the tenders from dated: **28.11.2025** through **Karnataka Public Procurement portal** at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:
1. Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications, **12.12.2025 upto 2.34 PM**
2. Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders, **15.12.2025 upto 2.35 PM**
3. Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid, **17.12.2025 at 11.35 AM**
4. Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid, **24.12.2025 at 10.35 AM**

Postponement of Calender of events (or if any information is only published through e-Procurement portal only) and will not be published in newspapers.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/795/2025-26/Deshpande Publicity

Sd/- Executive Engineer, DUDC Kalaburagi.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇ–ಮೇಲ್– eewmccmys@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಇಂ(ಪೂ&ಪ)/ಸಾ.ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ–20/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.11.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
	ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
1	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–52/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.11.2025	09	206.51	25.11.2025 & 26.11.2025	02.12.2025 & 03.12.2025	03.12.2025 & 04.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
2	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–53/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.11.2025	05	90.16	27.11.2025	11.12.2025	12.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
3	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–54/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.11.2025	01	33.50	28.11.2025	05.12.2025	06.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
	ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
4	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)ವಾ.ವಿ/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.11.2025	03	49.00	25.11.2025	02.12.2025	03.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
	ಗೂಡ್ಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
05	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)ವಾ.ವಿ/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.11.2025	01	99.48	26.11.2025	12.12.2025	15.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ರ ನಂತರ

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪೂರ್ವ ಮತ್ತು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆ / ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/1295/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ/2025–26

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD
CIN : U65923KL2010PLC039179
Regd Office: IV/470A (OLD) W/638A (NEW) Manappuram House Valapad Thrissur, Kerala 680567
Corp Office: Manappuram Home Finance Limited, Third Floor, Unit No. 301 to 315, A Wing, 'Kanakia Wall Street', Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093, Maharashtra.
Phone No.: 022-66211000, **Website:** www.manappuramhomefin.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN")** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest *[Act], 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice** calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic** possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said *[Act] read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower / Loan account number/ Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	Somashekara C R, Jayalaxmi P, Ravi C M, **/NHL00920010674/** Vinayanagar Ramnagara	Property Bearing No.782/5, Pl.D. No.1521002030400120173, Situated At Chamanahalli Village, Chamanahalli Gramapanchayath, Madduru Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka - 571429 Total Measuring 122.63 Meters. East-Own Site, West-Own Site, South-C K Vijayamma, North-Road	18-08-2024 & Rs.390999/-	25-11-2025
2	Renuka M, Malthesh Hallur, **/MHL00510018888/** Shimoga	Rdpr Khata No.152400403900300022, As Per Gram Panchayat Record Property No. 29/2 Measuring In Total 176.52 Sq Meter Including Measuring 92.90 Sq Meter House Property Situated At Channahalli, Nelavagilu Gram Panchayat. Shikaripura Taluk And Shivamogga District, Karnataka - 577427. East Property of Sharadamma W/O Guddappa, West-Property of Halluru Durugappa, South-Gram Panchayat Road, North-Drainage	18-08-2024 & Rs.480814/-	25-11-2025
3	Thimmaraju V, Chithra J, Pavithra M K, **/NHL00340007901/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.143/114/B, Pl.D. No. 1521004085003001 59, Situated At Ragimuddanahalli Village, Thubinakere Grama Panchayath, Mandya Taluk And Mandya District, Measuring East To West 6.096 Meters And North To South 18.288 Meters, Total Measuring 111.48 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin Code: 571402. East Venkateshaiah, West Hombamma, South-Road, North-Land Belongs To Basavegowdru	18-08-2024 & Rs.530068/-	25-11-2025
4	Meenakshi P, Veerabadra DS, **/MHL00930002274/** Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Khatha No.106/182/1 (Old Khatha No.106/82) And E-Khatha No.152500301401420036 Measuring East To West: 15.24 Mtrs And North To South: 9.144 Mtrs Is Situated At Devarahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572129. East- Road, West-Gally And After House Belongs To Rudramma, South-Gally, North- House Belongs To H. N. Basavaraju	18-08-2024 & Rs.475197/-	25-11-2025
5	Nethravathi N, Nagabhushan L, Narayanappa N, **/MHL00930017006/** Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing Katha No.33 And E-Katha No.152500300700120081 Measuring East To West: 13.716000000000001 Meters And North To South: 21.031200000000002 Meters, Situated At Yettuganahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin Code: 572129. East-Property of Dasakubaiah, West-Road, South-Property of K. Govindaiah, North-Conservancy And House of Ganganagappa	18-08-2025 & Rs.508045/-	25-11-2025
6	Siddappa S, Kempamma M, Sudha S, Kempanna M, **/CO90COLONS 00000500865 1/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Horeyala Gramapanchayathi Khatha No. 4 And As Per Form No. 9 And 11 A Unique No. 150802016004000 07 Situated At Hirekate Village, Gundlupete Taluk, Within The Jurisdiction of Horeyala Gramapanchayathi, Measuring East To West 5.18 Meters And North To South : 11.10Meters, Karnataka, Pin Code: 571109. East-House of Rajappa Son of Shivalingappa, West-Site of Parashivamurthy And Mahadevaswamy H.b, South-Road, North-House of Kantappa	18-08-2025 & Rs.626696/-	25-11-2025
7	Shreenivasa K V, Prema Kumari N, Venkataravanappa C, **/NHL00930019484/** Tumkur	Property Bearing Katha No.106/83 And E-Katha No.152500301801500190, Measuring East To West: 12.192 Meters And North To South: 9.144 Meters, Situated At Singalikepura Village, Holavanahalli Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka Pin: 572129.East-Road, West-House of Nanjamma, South-Galli, North-Road	18-08-2024 & Rs.529188/-	25-11-2025

Date: 29th November 2025 | Place: KARNATAKA **Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd**

QUICK READ

Delhi private schools to begin Nursery admissions from Dec 4

New Delhi

Nursery admissions in over 1,700 private schools across Delhi will begin on December 4, according to the Directorate of Education. Applications for Nursery, KG and Class 1 for the 2026–27 year will follow transparent guidelines, with all draws of lots held in front of parents. The first list of selected students will be released on January 23, followed by a second list on February 9. Schools can charge only a ₹25 registration fee, and prospectus purchases are optional. Parents can apply online at the DoE website and must upload required documents. The government says the streamlined process will ease stress for families.

Delhi crime branch nabs repeat offender in NRI case

New Delhi

Delhi Police have arrested Tarun, also known as Gadam Wala, a habitual offender linked to 68 criminal cases, solving a snatching incident involving an NRI woman. Tarun had been absconding for seven months after fleeing a case registered at Karol Bagh, where a woman from California was robbed of her gold chain on April 5. Police earlier arrested his associate Rahul, recovering the chain and scooty. Acting on secret inputs, the Crime Branch caught Tarun in Aman Vihar. He admitted to the crime, saying he committed it to fund drug use. Police say the arrest is a major step in curbing repeat offenders.

Fierce gunbattle erupts near Manipur Myanmar border

Security teams arrested six, including five KCP militants involved in widespread extortion across Imphal East and West areas

IMPHAL

A fierce gunbattle broke out on Friday along the Manipur–Myanmar border when an Assam Rifles patrol came under fire from suspected militants. Soldiers returned controlled fire to avoid harm to nearby villagers. Extra troops were rushed to the area, and the operation is still going on, officials said.

Manipur shares a long 398-kilometre unfenced border with Myanmar, which often allows easy movement of armed groups, drug smugglers, and other illegal elements. Because of this, security forces stay on high alert in these sensitive zones.

In separate joint operations, security teams arrested six people in the last 24 hours. Five of them were active militants of the banned Kangleipak Communist Party. Police

said they were involved in extortion across Imphal East and West areas, targeting common people, contractors, petrol pumps, and schools.

One accused, Khulem Robindro Singh, was also recruiting young boys into the group. In another case, Yumnam Chandra Singh, also known as Baby, was arrested from his home. Police recovered two high power grenades, a mobile phone, and his Aadhaar card.

Security forces have set up 115 checkpoints across valley and hill districts to stop illegal movement. They are also giving armed escorts to trucks carrying essential goods on the Imphal–Jiribam highway to keep travel safe.

Police urged people not to believe rumours or fake videos on social media. They warned that sharing false posts will lead to legal action, and asked citizens to check facts with the control room. The situation along the border remains tense, and security operations are continuing to restore peace and protect innocent lives in the region amid rising concerns today.

Punjab bus strike leaves thousands stranded statewide

Tensions rose in Sangrur as PRTC employees clashed with police, threatening self-immolation with petrol bottles, before authorities intervened and restored control over the situation

CHANDIGARH

Commuters across Punjab were left stranded on Friday after contractual employees of Punjab Roadways, Punbus and the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation (PRTC) launched a strike. The employees took action after police detained several union leaders who were protesting the opening of tenders under the controversial Kilometre Scheme. As a result, more than 3,000 buses remained off the roads, causing major travel disruptions.

Women, who normally travel free on state-run buses, were among the worst affected. Reports from Patiala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Moga, Amritsar and Ferozepur described long queues and confusion as passengers struggled to find alternative transport. Many were forced to spend extra money on private buses and taxis to reach their destinations.

The Kilometre Scheme has been widely criticised by transport unions, who argue that it encourages corruption and allows private operators to enter government routes through the "backdoor." They fear this will weaken the state-run transport sector, reduce job security and push unemployment higher.

Tensions escalated in Sangrur, the home district of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, where a scuffle broke out between PRTC employees and police. Some protesting workers climbed onto buses carrying petrol bottles and threatened self-immolation before police intervened and brought the situation under control.

Union leaders said around 8,000 contractual employees participated in the strike across all 27 depots in Punjab's 23 districts. Farmer group Samyukt Kisan Morcha condemned the police action, calling it a violation of democratic rights and urging the government to hold talks instead of making arrests.

Ex TTD Chairman quizzed in Parakamani theft probe

VIJAYAWADA

Former TTD Chairman and YSRCP leader Y. V. Subba Reddy appeared before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Friday regarding the Parakamani theft case at Tirumala temple. He was questioned by ADGP and CID chief Ravi Shankar Ayyanar at the Vijayawada CID office. The case stems from April 2023, when TTD employee Ravi Kumar was caught stealing $920 from the Parakamani counting centre. The matter was settled in a Lok Adalat in September 2023, with Kumar donating seven properties worth around Rs 40 crore to TTD, transferred during Subba Reddy's tenure. The probe reopened after a petition challenged the settlement. Investigations continue, following the suspicious death of former TTD vigilance officer Y. Satish Kumar.

The Bill imposes up to ten years' jail and fines for hidden remarriage, with compensation, excluding ST and Sixth Schedule areas

BJP backs Assam government's anti-polygamy bill move

NEW DELHI

The Assam Legislative Assembly has passed the Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025, making polygamy a criminal offence with jail up to seven years. The move has triggered sharp political reactions across the country. The BJP welcomed the law and called it a reform needed for social discipline and family values. BJP MP Praveen Khandelwal said Indian cultural traditions support one marriage and this step will help protect society and its structure. Party leader RP Singh also backed the law, saying no modern society can accept a person marrying again while the first spouse is still alive. He congratulated the Assam government for taking what he described as a bold and required decision.

Congress leaders, however, strongly opposed the Bill and called it unnecessary. Congress MLA Debabrata Saikia said that similar provisions already exist and accused the government of raising this issue to cover up slow development in the state. Party spokesperson Surendra Rajput also attacked Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and said the law is being used for political advantage as elections come closer.

He argued that customs followed by some tribal communities cannot be changed easily just by passing a law in the Assembly.

The Bill has tough punishment clauses. Anyone who marries again while hiding an existing marriage can face up to ten years in jail along with a fine. It also provides compensation for the affected woman. But it will not apply to Scheduled Tribes and Sixth Schedule areas, which have special constitutional protection.

Chief Minister Sarma said the Bill is a step towards a future Uniform Civil Code and aims to protect women's rights. The political debate is likely to continue, but the law has already become a major topic of discussion across Assam and the country.

Calcutta HC seeks CAG reply on flood-relief probe delay

KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court has asked the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to explain the delay in submitting its final report on alleged ₹1,000-crore irregularities in 2017 flood-relief funds in Malda district. A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Sujoy Paul and Justice Partha Sarathi Sen issued the direction after noting that the CAG had already probed the case but not made its findings public. The court has asked for an explanation by December 15. Earlier, a PIL prompted the probe, with the initial CAG report pointing to irregularities and naming some panchayat members. The court questioned the delay in filing the follow-up report.

Patna tightens security before Bihar Assembly session

PATNA

The Patna district administration has announced strict restrictions ahead of the first session of the 18th Bihar Legislative Assembly, which will be held from December 1 to December 5. The step is aimed at maintaining peace and ensuring that the Assembly proceedings run without any disturbance.

Officials said that several political parties, student groups, and social organisations are expected to hold protests, marches, and demonstrations during the session days. Because of this, the administration decided to put preventive measures in place to avoid chaos near the Assembly complex.

Patna Sadar Sub-Divisional Magistrate Gaurav Kumar stated that Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita has been enforced in and around the Assembly area. He said this was necessary due to possible law and order challenges during the session.

According to the order, no unlawful gathering of five or more people will be allowed in the notified zone. All kinds of protests, rallies, processions, dharnas, and gheraos have been banned. Carrying weapons such as guns, knives, spears, explosives, axes, or any sharp tools is also strictly prohibited. The use of loudspeakers without official permission is not allowed.

The restricted area covers key locations around the Assembly, including Patna Zoo Gate Number 1, Nehru Path, Vishweshwaraiah Bhawan, R-Block roundabout, Kotwali T-Point, Chitkohra roundabout, Veterinary College, Buddha Marg, and the Patna GPO roundabout.

However, the restrictions will not apply to MLAs, MLCs, government officers, police and military personnel on duty, and staff working in the Assembly or Legislative Council. People with valid entry passes issued by the Assembly Secretariat and authorised vehicles will also be allowed.

Parents seek court stay on film about martyr son

NEW DELHI

The parents of Ashoka Chakra awardee Late Major Mohit Sharma have approached the Delhi High Court seeking a stay on the release of the upcoming film Dhurandhar. They allege that the movie has been made by "exploiting" the life and military service of their martyr son without their consent. The film is scheduled to release on December 5.

In their petition, 77-year-old Sushila Sharma and 75-year-old Rajendra Prasad Sharma said the trailer and promotions clearly link Ranveer Singh's character to Major Sharma, who lost his life during a counter-terror operation in Kupwara on March 21, 2009. Calling themselves "humble and grieving parents," they said they were shocked to find their son's life "used, portrayed and fictionalised" for commercial gain.

The plea argues that even if the filmmakers deny the connection, an ordinary viewer would easily identify the hero with Major Sharma based on the storyline, visual details and military background. The petition highlights concerns related to Article 21, posthumous dignity, biography rights, and the government's responsibility to prevent misuse of a national hero's story.

The petition names the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, CBFC, ADGPI, director Aditya Dhar and Jio Studios president Jyoti Deshpande as respondents. It demands that the film be withheld until the family views the unedited version and their concerns are addressed.

Bengal student credit card sanctions cross one lakh: Mamata

KOLKATA

The West Bengal government's student credit card scheme has crossed one lakh sanctioned cases, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Friday. She shared the news on social media and called it a big step for students who dream of higher studies but lack money support.

Under this scheme, students can take an education loan of up to ten lakh rupees at a very low simple interest rate of four percent per year. The state government pays the full interest subsidy, so students and their families do not have to worry about heavy extra costs. Mamata Banerjee said the programme will continue to help young talents in building their future.

The scheme started on June 30, 2021, soon after she became Chief Minister for the third time. It was one of her main election promises. The loan can be used for higher education in India or abroad. Many students from rural and poor backgrounds have applied, hoping to study engineering, medicine, management, and other professional courses.

However, the scheme has also faced some problems. The state government has accused several banks of delaying loan approvals. Officials have said that some banks even asked students for property or other guarantees, even though the state itself is acting as the guarantor. During meetings of the State Level Bankers' Committee, the finance department has raised this issue many times. They have urged banks to fully support the scheme and not trouble students with extra conditions.

Mamata Banerjee said the government is serious about making education reachable for all. She added that no deserving student should be forced to drop studies because of money problems.

The government has promised to monitor the banks closely and make sure the scheme runs smoothly. For many families, this credit card has become a hope for a better and secure future.

WOMEN EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

CM's Women Employment Scheme reaches thousands

PATNA

Under the Chief Minister's Women Employment Scheme, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar transferred Rs 10,000 each to the bank accounts of 10 lakh women on Friday. The funds were released through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) during a special programme at the Chief Minister's residence. Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, senior officials, and department representatives were present at the event.

Officials said the beneficiaries include about 9.5 lakh rural women and 50,000 urban women. All are associated with Jeevika self-help groups and have previously received training and support to pursue self-employment and income-generating activities. The scheme has so far helped around 1.5 crore women, each receiving Rs 10,000 to strengthen financial independence and promote entrepreneurship.

The application process was conducted in two phases: rural women applied offline and online at Panchayat level, while urban women submitted online applications. Priority was given to women already engaged in Jeevika initiatives. The cash assistance is aimed at helping women start small businesses and actively participate in economic activities, fostering self-reliance and empowerment.

The scheme, announced on August 29, was launched formally by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 26, transferring the first instalment to 75 lakh women. The second instalment of Rs 10,000 each to 25 lakh women was released on October 3. Opposition leaders alleged that some cash transfers coincided with the Model Code of Conduct during the Bihar Assembly elections, raising concerns of potential voter influence.

Rahul Gandhi slams Centre over Delhi-NCR pollution crisis

Rahul Gandhi demanded urgent Parliament debate on air pollution, calling clean air a basic right with enforceable action

NEW DELHI

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Friday strongly attacked the central government over rising pollution in Delhi-NCR. He said India's children are "choking in front of us" and questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the worsening air crisis.

In a post on X, Rahul Gandhi shared concerns raised by mothers during his interactions. He said many women told him their children are growing up breathing toxic air and falling sick more often. He added that parents are tired, scared and angry, as they see their children suffer every day.

Rahul Gandhi demanded an urgent debate in Parliament on air pollution and called for a strict and enforceable action plan. He said clean air should be treated as a basic right and not delayed with excuses or political distractions. He also shared a video where women from Delhi-NCR warned that long-term damage to health and the economy will happen if the problem is ignored.

Meanwhile, Delhi woke up to another day of toxic air. The city's Air Quality Index stood at 385, which falls in the "very poor" category. Pollution levels continue to remain dangerous for children, elderly people and those with breathing problems.

The situation worsened even after authorities recently lifted the Graded Response Action Plan Stage-III restrictions. On Thursday, the AQI climbed from 327 to 377 within just 24 hours. Officials said stricter curbs will be reintroduced only if AQI crosses 400, which is considered "severe". According to the Central Pollution Control Board, the pollution rose sharply due to low wind speed. AQI moved from 351 in the morning to 381 by evening, showing how fast dirty air gathered in the region.

QUICK READ

SC blocks Maharashtra from excess local reservations

New Delhi

The Supreme Court has stopped Maharashtra's State Election Commission from giving more than 50% reservation in local body elections where polls are yet to be announced. The court allowed elections already notified to go ahead but said results in areas exceeding the limit will depend on ongoing petitions challenging OBC quotas. Chief Justice Surya Kant directed SEC to complete elections for zila parishads, municipal corporations, and panchayat samitis without crossing 50%. Any delays in delimitation cannot postpone elections. The court has referred the case to a three-judge bench, with the next hearing set for January 21, 2026.

Odisha unveils new surrender policy for extremists

Bhubaneswar

Odisha has revamped its 'Surrender and Rehabilitation Scheme' for Left Wing Extremists (LWEs) following new Home Ministry guidelines. The plan aims to reintegrate Maoist cadres through financial aid, jobs, and skill training. Extremists are now categorized: top leaders get up to Rs 5 lakh, mid-level cadres Rs 2.5 lakh, with Rs 50,000 immediately and the rest in phased deposits. Weapon surrenders bring additional cash, and those with bounties receive the higher of the two amounts. Benefits include housing, marriage grants, skill courses, stipends, and ration support. Those returning to militancy face asset seizure under strict safeguards.

President Murmu emphasized self-reflection and spiritual awareness, urging people to pause, connect with their inner selves, and find true happiness in a calm, stable mind, not material wealth

Def Min Rajnath Singh outlines India's rising global defence

NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said India is emerging as a balanced and responsible global voice because of steady economic growth, strong technology, and clear foreign policy. He was speaking at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue held on the theme "Reform to Transform – Sashakt, Surakshit aur Viksit Bharat".

Singh said many countries in the Indo-Pacific and the Global South now see India as a reliable partner. He explained that India follows strategic independence, cultural values, and responsible diplomacy while dealing with the world.

He added that global trust in India comes from major defence and governance reforms and its firm stand on sovereignty and international rules. Talking about current world challenges, he pointed to terrorism, cross-border support to extremist groups, attempts to change borders by force, pressure at sea, and information warfare.

The Defence Minister said reforms are not just paperwork. They make institutions stronger, improve the speed and flexibility of the armed forces, and help the nation shape its own future. He explained that the government is working on better border roads, stronger maritime security, and modern weapons and technology for the forces.

He also spoke about reforms in defence procurement to make processes faster and more transparent. He said the Aatmanirbhar Bharat programme is building a strong defence industry in India, reducing foreign dependence and encouraging innovation by Indian companies.

Singh said resilience is as important as military power. He called the armed forces the strongest backbone of national strength. He added that India always believes in peace and dialogue, but it will never compromise on its sovereignty and the safety of its people.

Delhi HC cancels Lokpal action against Defence Secretary

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday quashed Lokpal proceedings against Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh over alleged promotion irregularities at the National Productivity Council. The bench noted the complaint, filed in 2024, did not involve corruption or offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act. Earlier notices and orders issued by Lokpal were stayed, as Singh assumed the promotions occurred before his tenure. Senior advocates argued the Lokpal lacked jurisdiction since the matter involved procedural issues, not bribery or abuse of office. The court ruled the Lokpal acted without sufficient grounds, ending the proceedings and granting final relief to Singh.

Unity March fills Anand streets with patriotism

ANAND

On the third day of the national Unity March, thousands gathered in Anand district as the procession moved from Anklav through Hathipura, Umeta and nearby villages.

People lined both sides of the roads, showering flowers, waving flags and chanting patriotic slogans while the long line of marchers continued towards Sindhrot near Vadodara city.

Cries of Jai Jai Sardar and Vande Mataram echoed across the villages as youth groups shouted My Bharat and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat with full energy and.

The atmosphere on the nearly thirteen kilometre route showed a mix of culture, devotion and pride, clearly reflecting the values shown by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to all.

Union Ministers Mansukh Mandaviya, Sarbananda Sonowal and Ajay Tamta joined the march at Anklav along with NCC, NSS, scouts, guides and Yuva Bharat volunteers from across India.

The day started with a tree plantation at Smriti Van, sending a message of responsibility, nature care and unity before the long march began its journey ahead.

Minister Mandaviya said the march was planned to spread the message of national integration and to remind citizens about Sardar Patel's dream of Akhand Bharat for generations.

He added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi envisions an Aatmanirbhar and strong Bharat and such events help connect people emotionally with that national vision and purpose today. Villagers welcomed marchers with garba, songs and slogans, while community groups arranged water, buttermilk, sherbet and snacks showing warm Gujarat style hospitality and unity for all visitors.

As the march moved towards Sindhrot, it left behind memories of unity, cultural pride and a strong reminder of Sardar Patel's lasting role in uniting the nation.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam message grows stronger in crisis

LUCKNOW

President Droupadi Murmu said the ancient Indian idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, which means the world is one family, is more important today as the world faces many problems and divisions. She was speaking at the launch of Brahma Kumaris' theme for 2025–26, "Meditation for World Unity and Trust", held in Lucknow.

President Murmu emphasized self-reflection and spiritual awareness, urging people to pause, connect with their inner selves, and find true happiness in a calm, stable mind, not material wealth

The President said India's culture has always taught unity, compassion and togetherness. She explained that even though humanity is making fast progress in science, technology, artificial intelligence, digital systems and space research, people are becoming more stressed and lonely. She said modern growth has not brought peace inside the human mind.

According to her, people today have better education and more facilities than ever before. Still, fear, mistrust, insecurity and social distance are increasing across societies. She said this shows that outer progress alone is not enough. Inner peace and emotional balance are also needed.

President Murmu stressed the value of self reflection and spiritual awareness. She said people must learn to pause, think and connect with their inner self. She added that real happiness does not depend on money or material things, but comes from a calm and stable mind.

She said spiritual thinking helps develop compassion, equality, unity and respect for all. A peaceful mind, she explained, spreads positive energy into society and builds the base for global harmony. A strong inner spirit, she added, is essential for building trust among nations and communities.

The President also praised the work of the Brahma Kumaris organisation. She said they are doing good work in promoting world peace, human values, women's strength, spiritual growth, education and meditation. Their efforts, she said, help people live better and more meaningful lives.

Brahma Kumaris is a global spiritual organisation that focuses on personal change and world renewal through Rajyoga meditation.

The President expressed hope that their work will continue to guide society towards a more peaceful and united future.

She concluded that in today's divided world, the idea that the whole world is one family remains a powerful message for humanity.

LG Saxena urges IPS officers to serve people

NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor V.K. Saxena on Friday met Indian Police Service probationers of the 2023 and 2024 batches at Raj Niwas, urging them to use their training, knowledge, and skills for genuine public service rather than personal publicity, with good governance as their primary focus. During the interaction, probationers shared experiences from training with specialised agencies across multiple states. Saxena praised their energy and commitment, emphasizing that honesty, sincerity, and dedication should guide their careers, and warned against distractions from fame or self-promotion, stressing service to citizens with humility.

The meeting followed senior official P.K. Mishra's address at the UPSC Shatabdi Sammelan, where he noted that civil servants are now expected to drive meaningful change rather than minor improvements.

Mishra highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration, humility, and integrity, while addressing challenges such as technological growth, urbanisation, climate change, and disasters. He stressed a shift from process-based work to results-oriented governance and citizen partnership.

India US deal boosts navy helicopter readiness

NEW DELHI

India has signed a Rs 7,995 crore agreement with the United States to provide long term sustainment support for the Indian Navy's MH-60R helicopters. The deal was signed on Friday under the US Foreign Military Sales programme in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh. The five year support package includes supply of spare parts, special tools, support equipment, technical help, training, repair services, and regular replenishment of key components. It will also help set up intermediate level repair and maintenance facilities inside India.

The government said building these facilities in the country will reduce dependence on foreign support and strengthen India's own defence capability. This move supports the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision and will create new chances for Indian MSMEs and private firms to take part in defence manufacturing and services.

According to the Defence Ministry, this sustainment support will improve the availability and performance of the advanced MH-60R helicopters. These all weather helicopters are mainly used for anti submarine warfare and anti surface warfare, along with other naval roles.

The support will also allow the Navy to operate the helicopters from different bases, remote locations, and warships with better efficiency. This will help maintain high readiness during critical missions at sea.

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD
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POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN")** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest *[Act],2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice** calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said *[Act] read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower/ Loan account number/ Branch	Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Interest has been created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of possession
1	Deevindrppa Bandeppa Harijan, Devakka Harijan, Fakkiravva Devendrappa Harijan & Nagesh Bhimappa Harijan / **NHL00260035505 & NVAP0026035504**/HUBLI	Property No:151400102500500867 SR No:575, total measuring 56.10 sq mtr, at: Soratur Village, Tq:Gadag and Dist:Gadag, Gadag, P.O SORTUR, GADAG, KARNATAKA, Pin: 582120	19-04-2025 & Rs. 3,20,041/-	24-11-2025
2	Hasina Banu, Mansur H & Muskan M / **MHL00510013876** / SHIMOGA	E Property no: 151200504200220097, property no : 313, Total 148.64 Sq Mtr., Including 74.32 Sq. Mtr. Building, Situated at Govinakovi village & grama panchayath nyamthi taluk Davanagere dist, DAVANAGARE, P.O GOVINAKOVI, DAVANAGARE, KARNATAKA, Pin: 577230	01-03-2025 & Rs. 4,37,544/-	25-11-2025
3	Usha S, Mahadeva C & Renuka J / **MHL00340028467 & NVAP0034028466** / MYSORE	Property no-112, H Block, Unique no-152100700700103055, total 55.70 Sq Meter, Situated at Belagola village & Gp, Srirangapatna taluk & Madya District., Mysuru, P.O belagola, MANDYA, KARNATAKA, Pin: 571606	18-02-2025 & Rs. 3,59,837/-	22-11-2025

Date: 29/11/2025 | Place: KARNATAKA **Sd/- Authorized Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd**

WARSHIP DIPLOMACY DISPLAY

Vikrant Udaygiri mark maiden overseas naval deployment

NEW DELHI

India's first locally built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and the new stealth frigate INS Udaygiri are making their maiden overseas deployment at Sri Lanka's International Fleet Review 2025 in Colombo. The event is being hosted by the Sri Lanka Navy from November twenty seven to twenty nine as part of its seventy fifth anniversary celebrations.

Naval ships and delegations from many countries have arrived, showing strong regional cooperation and growing ties among Indian Ocean nations. This historic visit highlights India's focus on peace, security, and teamwork in the Indian Ocean region through regular engagement with friendly navies.

INS Vikrant, the pride of the nation, symbolises India's growing self reliance in defence manufacturing and advanced warship construction technology. INS Udaygiri also reflects this progress, showcasing modern stealth features and strong combat abilities developed through Indian shipyards and local industries. During their stay, the ships will take part in parades, professional exchanges, and community outreach programmes connecting sailors with local residents.

They will also open their decks to visitors, allowing people to see India's naval strength and technology up close. This visit follows the recent Exercise Mitra Shakti between the Indian and Sri Lankan armies, held in Karnataka from November ten to twenty three. The joint exercise included troops from the Rajput Regiment and Gajaba Regiment, along with air force support from both nations.

Later, both sides held army talks in Bodhgaya and agreed to improve training, coordination, and future defence cooperation. The fleet review and these joint efforts clearly show the strong friendship and shared commitment of India and Sri Lanka towards regional peace and stability for years ahead always.

QUICK READ

INS Vikrant, INS Udaygiri mark maiden overseas deployment

Colombo
India's first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, along with the latest indigenous stealth frigate INS Udaygiri, is representing the Indian Navy at the International Fleet Review (IFR) 2025 being hosted by the Sri Lanka Navy in Colombo from November 27-29. The event is part of the Sri Lanka Navy's 75th anniversary celebrations and features participation from naval ships, delegations and observers from several countries. This visit marks the maiden overseas deployment of both ships and underscores India's commitment to strengthening regional maritime cooperation.

Imran Khan's sister files plea against jail superintendent

Islamabad
Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's sister Aleema Khan has filed a contempt of court petition against the Adiala jail superintendent and others over their failure in following an Islamabad High Court (IHC) order that directed a twice-a-week meeting schedule for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, local media reported on Friday. Aleema Khan filed the petition after Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, along with several other PTI members, held an overnight sit-in outside Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, where Imran Khan has been incarcerated since 2023, Pakistan's leading daily Dawn reported on Friday.

One dead in western Sydney shooting

Sydney
A man has died after being shot multiple times on a street in western Sydney on Friday. Police in the Australian State of New South Wales (NSW) said in a statement that officers were deployed to reports of a public place shooting on a residential street in Blacktown, 30 kilometres west of central Sydney, around 11:50 am on Friday. Officers arrived and found a man with gunshot wounds to his neck, chest and leg. He was treated by ambulance paramedics, but died at the scene.

INS Sahyadri in Manila After PASSEX With Philippine Navy

India and the Philippines deepened maritime cooperation as INS Sahyadri reached Manila following joint naval drills in regional waters

MANILA

In a major boost to India–Philippines maritime ties, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri arrived in Manila to a warm reception after completing a successful Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Philippine Navy. The ship's arrival marks another step in strengthening operational cooperation and strategic engagement between the two Indo-Pacific partners.

According to a post by the Embassy of India in the Philippines on X, the harbour phase will involve a series of professional interactions. A warm welcome to INS Sahyadri on her arrival in Manila! Following a successful Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Philippine Navy, this harbour visit will feature professionally enriching interactions and engagements with the Philippine Navy and Coast Guard on issues of mutual interest, deepening our maritime cooperation and enduring friendship, the Embassy stated.

INS Sahyadri, an indigenously designed and built Guided Missile Stealth Frigate, stands as a testament to India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision. During the PASSEX, the Indian and Philippine navies conducted a range of maritime drills, including tactical communication exercises, navigation manoeuvres, Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) operations and flying drills, enhancing interoperability and mutual understanding.

The harbour phase of the visit will also include cross-deck tours and Subject Matter Expert Exchanges, aimed at sharing best practices and elevating professional synergy between the two forces. Beyond operational engagements, the crew will take part in cultural activities such as friendly sporting events, joint yoga sessions and community outreach, including assistance to a local orphanage.

INS Sahyadri is currently on an operational deployment in the Indo-Pacific, participating in several high-profile multilateral and bilateral exercises such as MALABAR-2025, AUSINDEX-2025, JAIMEX-25 and a maiden bilateral drill with the Republic of Korea Navy. The deployment reflects India's continued commitment to regional security, cooperation and a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Israeli raid in southern Syria leaves at least 13 dead, says Damascus

Syrian officials accuse Israel of a massacre as tensions surge across regional fronts.

DAMASCUS

At least 13 people were killed on Friday after Israeli forces raided the southern Syrian village of Beit Jin and opened fire when confronted by residents, Syrian officials said, as Israel continues to engage multiple fronts even as a fragile ceasefire in Gaza inches forward.

Syria's Foreign Ministry condemned the operation as "a horrific massacre," claiming women and children were among the dead. State news agency SANA reported that Israeli troops entered Beit Jin to detain local men, triggering heavy gunfire when villagers resisted. The clashes forced dozens of families to flee.

The Israeli military, however, said it launched the raid based on intelligence to apprehend members of Jamaa Islamiya, accused of planning attacks on Israeli civilians. According to the army, militants opened fire during the operation, wounding six Israeli soldiers who were evacuated for treatment. Troops returned fire and provided aerial support, killing several militants and detaining all suspects, the military added.

Israel has viewed Syria's new authorities with caution since the collapse of Bashar Assad's government in December 2024. Israeli forces have since taken control of the former U.N.-patrolled buffer zone established under a 1974 disengagement agreement and carried out hundreds of airstrikes on Syrian military sites.

Friday's deaths drew fresh condemnation from Damascus, which urged the international community to act against what it called repeated violations of sovereignty. A local official told The Associated Press that all of the dead were civilians, including one man who had celebrated his wedding just a day earlier.

The incident comes amid intensified Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon and growing fears that renewed violence could destabilize the already fragile truce in Gaza.

A devastating fire in Hong Kong's Wang Fuk Court has killed over a hundred residents, with many more still unaccounted for

Hong Kong Residential Complex Fire Death Toll Rises to 128

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Chief Executive John Lee said that the fire had gradually been brought under control thanks to the relentless efforts of firefighters. He noted that about 279 people remain missing, while 29 are hospitalised.

The death toll from the massive fire that engulfed a residential complex in Hong Kong has climbed to 128, with authorities warning that the number may rise further. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government confirmed the figures on Friday as search and rescue operations continued through challenging conditions.

The Fire Services Department (FSD) has deployed 304 fire engines and rescue vehicles, using drones to monitor hotspots and prevent the fire from reigniting. Firefighters have extinguished flames in four of the affected buildings and brought the blaze under control in the remaining three.

Wang Fuk Court, the residential area struck by the fire, consists of eight buildings. All were covered in green mesh and surrounded by scaffolding due to an ongoing major renovation project—a factor now at the centre of the police investigation. Three renovation contractors have been arrested on suspicion of manslaughter after investigators pointed to flammable materials used on the buildings as a likely cause of the fire's rapid spread. Authorities say it is one of the worst blazes Hong Kong has witnessed in decades.

Hong Kong Chief Executive John Lee said that the fire had gradually been brought under control thanks to the relentless efforts of firefighters. He noted that about 279 people remain missing, while 29 are hospitalised, including seven in critical condition. Lee expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy and said the government was mobilising all available resources to support rescue operations.

He emphasised that emergency teams are working on multiple fronts—extinguishing remaining fire pockets, rescuing trapped residents, treating the injured, offering psychological and material support to affected families and carrying out a full investigation into the accident.

Rights group reports fresh enforced disappearances

QUETTA

Another two Baloch youth were forcibly disappeared by Pakistani forces in Balochistan, amid a growing wave of enforced disappearances across the province, a leading human rights organisation said on Friday. Human rights body Baloch Voice for Justice (BVJ) mentioned that Pakistan's Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) personnel detained two young brothers, Sata Deen Bugti and Fazal Deen Bugti, from the Matt area of Sui in Dera Bugti district. According to the family, both were taken into custody during a raid and then moved to an unknown location.

The family stated that they have no information about the condition or location of the two brothers. They fear for their safety and have urged rights groups to highlight the case. The sudden detention has created serious distress for the family, the BVJ mentioned. The rights body condemned the incident and called for the immediate release of Sata Deen Bugti and Fazal Deen Bugti. It stressed that the ongoing pattern of enforced disappearances demands urgent attention from international human rights bodies. According to the BYC, 26-year-old Muhammad Allam, a resident of the Grisha region in Khuzdar district, was shot dead by Pakistan-backed armed groups.

25 injured as BNP, Jamaat workers clash in B'desh

DHAKA

At least 25 people were injured in Bangladesh after a violent clash erupted between workers of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami during electoral outreach in the Pabna district, according to local media reports.

The violence erupted on Char Gargari village of Sahapur Union in Pabna, with both sides blaming each other for the attack. Seven of those injured were taken to the Ishwardi Upazila Health Complex, while the others received primary treatment at various private clinics.

Confirming the incident, Ishwardi Police Station's Officer-in-Charge (OC), ASM Abdun Nur, said that they arrived at the scene after receiving the information and attempted to bring the situation under control.

Citing local residents and eyewitnesses, Bangladesh's Bengali daily Prothom Alo reported that when Jamaat's candidate Abu Taleb Mondal went to the area for campaign outreach, he was obstructed by supporters of the BNP candidate.

After a brief exchange of heated words and scuffles, Mondal left, but another clash broke out on his way back, during which several shots were reportedly fired, and several motorcycles, along with his vehicle, were vandalised.

According to Jamaat candidate Mondal, he and the party workers had visited the village as part of their pre-scheduled campaign programme, accompanied by around 150 motorcycles. He alleged that on their way back, supporters of BNP candidate Habibur Rahman attacked them and opened fire, vandalising several motorcycles. Mondal claimed that at least 50 of their supporters were injured, including six who suffered gunshot wounds.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

4		7	9		6	1		5
	1		4		2		8	
6	2				3		4	7
		3		2		7		4
1	5		7	3				
2		4		9	1	6		3
9	6		5	1		4		8
	4	1		6		5		9
	8		3		9		6	

4	3	2	6	1	9	5	8	7
7	1	5	3	8	2	4	6	9
8	9	6	7	4	5	2	1	3
2	7	1	4	3	6	8	9	5
9	6	3	1	5	8	7	4	2
5	8	4	9	2	7	1	3	6
3	2	9	8	7	4	6	5	1
6	5	8	2	9	1	3	7	4
1	4	7	5	6	3	9	2	8

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

Fill a 9×9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3×3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

Prez Donald Trump announces plan to halt migration

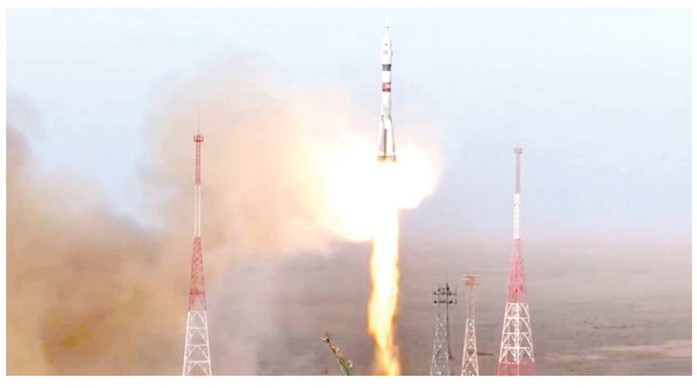
NEW DELHI

Days after an Afghan national allegedly opened fire at two National Guard members near the White House, US President Donald Trump has announced a sweeping immigration decision, stating he intends to permanently pause migration from all Third World countries. The proposed move, if implemented, could significantly affect millions seeking entry into the US for education, work, safety or asylum, and may reshape global migration patterns. In a sharply-worded post on Truth Social, President Trump stated that while the US has advanced technologically, immigration policies over the years have weakened the country's progress and impacted living standards.

BAIKONUR LAUNCH THREAT

Baikonur Launch Pad Damage Threatens Russia's Missions

MOSCOW



Russia's human spaceflight program faces a significant setback after a key launch pad at the Baikonur Cosmodrome suffered extensive damage during the November 27 launch of the Soyuz MS-28 mission to the International Space Station (ISS). The incident has prompted serious concerns that Moscow may be temporarily grounded from conducting crewed spaceflights for the first time in decades.

The Soyuz MS-28 spacecraft, carrying two Russian cosmonauts and one NASA astronaut, lifted off and docked with the ISS without issue. However, ground assessments revealed a critical failure: a movable service cabin—an essential crew access structure—collapsed into the exhaust trench beneath the launch pad during liftoff. This cabin is vital not only for crewed Soyuz missions but also for Progress cargo launches, making its damage a direct threat to the continuity of Russia's space operations.

Baikonur remains Russia's only functioning site capable of sending humans into orbit, and the damage has sparked alarm among space analysts. Roscosmos confirmed the destruction of multiple components of the launch infrastructure, stating that repair efforts are already underway and that spare parts are available. However, experts warn that depending on the structural impact and mandatory safety reviews, the repair timeline could range from several months to as long as two years.

Such a prolonged delay would effectively paralyze Moscow's ability to conduct crewed flights, marking an unprecedented disruption for a facility that has been in continuous use since the 1960s. Upcoming Soyuz and Progress missions may now face indefinite postponements, forcing Russia to consider accelerating development at the Vostochny Cosmodrome or seeking temporary international arrangements to maintain access to low-Earth orbit. Roscosmos confirmed that the Soyuz MS-28 crew currently aboard the ISS is safe.

QUICK READ

Third-party security breach impacts data of some CoinDCX users

New Delhi

Crypto exchange CoinDCX has revealed that in a recent security breach at Mixpanel, the third-party service provider to the company, data of some of its users was impacted. Disclosing the fact to its users through an email, the crypto exchange clarified that the breach had not directly impacted CoinDCX's infrastructure and that the funds of its users were safe. On November 25, Mixpanel, a US-based company, informed CoinDCX that some of its data had been compromised following a security incident. Following this, the Crypto exchange platform communicated to its users.

GST boost fuels AC sales spike during festive season

New Delhi

Room air conditioners saw a sharp surge in demand during the festive season, aided by deferred purchases following GST rate cuts, a new report said on Friday. However, the data compiled by BNP Paribas India highlighted that overall demand expected to remain flat in the near term. Lighting saw healthy improvement in demand over the past few months with continued traction for the premium segment, the report said. Demand for cables remained strong, while wires demand has picked up with the resumption in construction activities post an extended monsoon, it noted.

India's PE and VC investments up 9 pc to $5.3 billion in Oct

New Delhi

Private equity and venture capital investments in India touched $5.3 billion in October 2025 up 9 per cent month-on-month, driven by a tenfold surge in private investments in public equity (PIPE), a report said on Friday. Sector wise the strong activity in financial services that recorded $2.9 billion drove the surge followed by e-commerce at $715 million, the joint report from Ernst & Young (EY) and Indian Venture and Alternate Capital Association (IVCA) said. In October, PIPE deals were the highest for $2.1 billion, up 981 per cent year-on-year, while start-up investments followed with a total of $2 billion posting a 175 per cent increase on-year.

India Expands Global Energy Footprint to 40 Nations: Puri

NEW DELHI

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday announced that India's global energy footprint has expanded substantially in the past ten years, increasing its partner nations from 27 to 40. He credited this growth to strengthened energy diplomacy and a more secure sourcing network built under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Puri highlighted that India's widening global engagement is the result of conscious diversification across continents and the formation of trusted alliances. According to him, this broader strategy has enabled the country to refine its sourcing basket and build a stable supply chain. Bharat's global energy footprint is expanding with purpose. From 27 partner countries a decade ago to 40 today, India has built a stronger and more secure energy network under PM Narendra Modi, Puri wrote on social media platform X.

He explained that this strategic global outreach aligns with India's ambition to emerge as a major global refining and energy hub. This vision, he noted, is being supported by rapid capacity expansion and significant policy reforms initiated since 2014. A broader sourcing basket, growing refining strength and trusted global partnerships are powering a more resilient future for Bharat, Puri added.

The minister also pointed out earlier this year that India's refining capacity has already touched approximately 258 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA). This is expected to increase to nearly 310 MMTPA by 2030, with long-term projections indicating a rise to 400–450 MMTPA. Such progress, he said, positions India among the world's top refining hubs, particularly at a time when close to 20 per cent of global refining capacity may face potential shutdowns by 2035.

Even amid sluggish global growth in the energy sector, India remains a major contributor to global demand. Projections indicate that the nation may account for 30–33 per cent of incremental global energy consumption in the coming decades.

S.Korea Unveils $280 bn Plan to Accelerate Battery Technologies

SEOUL

South Korea will invest heavily in advanced battery technologies to strengthen global competitiveness and reduce reliance on foreign suppliers

The South Korean government announced on Friday that it will invest 280 billion won ($191 million) over the next four years to accelerate the development of next-generation battery technologies, including all-solid-state, lithium metal and lithium sulfur batteries. The initiative, revealed during the national advanced industry committee meeting chaired by Prime Minister Kim Min-seok, aims to solidify the country's leadership in the rapidly evolving secondary battery industry, Yonhap news agency reported.

According to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources, the strategic investment comes at a crucial time as the global electric vehicle (EV) market undergoes major shifts and China strengthens its influence in the battery sector. The ministry emphasized that the secondary battery industry is central to achieving carbon neutrality and advancing future mobility, making innovation essential for maintaining Korea's competitive edge.

As part of the plan, the government will prepare a 10-year roadmap to guide the industry's transition toward technology-driven competitiveness rather than price-based competition. The roadmap will focus on enhancing the domestic industrial ecosystem by supporting battery material development and maintaining Korea's production base through measures aimed at stimulating demand for EVs and energy storage systems.

In line with this objective, the government will introduce support programs to help companies commercialize next-generation battery materials and develop new standard-type batteries with higher performance than existing lithium iron phosphate (LFP) models. Officials said these advancements will play a key role in ensuring long-term industry growth.

Another major component of the plan involves reducing the nation's heavy dependence on China for critical minerals and key battery materials. To achieve this, Seoul will identify priority countries for critical minerals cooperation and craft tailored strategies for each. Additionally, 100 billion won will be allocated to a supply chain stabilization fund, alongside expanded low-interest loan programs for firms investing in critical minerals.

SCBs post 1.4 pc surge in net profit in Q2FY26 led by PSBs

NEW DELHI

The net profit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) grew marginally by 1.4 per cent year-on-year in Q2FY26, with gains driven by fee income, reduced provisions, and controlled operating expenses, even as margins compressed, a report said on Friday.

Net profit of SCBs grew 2.5 per cent sequentially to Rs 0.94 lakh crore in Q2FY26. Public sector banks (PSBs) recorded a 4.7 per cent year-on-year rise in net profit to Rs 0.50 lakh crore, while private sector banks (PVBs) saw profits fall 2.1 per cent to Rs 0.44 lakh crore, the report from CareEdge Ratings said.

The rise in PSB profits is mainly attributed to fee income and treasury gains, alongside credit growth in the retail and MSME segments, and normalised operating expenses.

Further, the inclusion of recent stake-sale effects would lift large PSBs' profits by 8.9 per cent YoY. PVBs faced slower corporate loan demand, flat growth in interest income, continued stress in the microfinance and unsecured segments, and increased provisions.

If a one-off regulatory provision is included, net profit for PVBs would have declined by an additional 4 per cent YoY.

Return on assets for SCBs stood at an annualised 1.29 per cent in Q2FY26, down 11 basis points year-on-year, attributed to margin pressures due to rate cuts.

Sequentially, it grew by one bps, attributed to slightly increased margins of PSBs in the current quarter, business growth, and overall improvement in the asset quality.

South Korea's financial watchdog has issued major penalties to banks over mis-sold investment products tied to Hong Kong's H Index

S.Korea Fines Five Banks $2 Trillion for Mis-Selling Hong Kong-Linked ELS Products

SEOUL

Five major South Korean banks have been notified of penalties totalling around 2 trillion won ($1.37 billion) for mis-selling equity-linked securities (ELS) products linked to Hong Kong's H Index, informed industry sources said on Friday. The Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) issued the penalty notices to KB Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Bank, Hana Bank, NH Nonghyup and SC Korea, all of which have already incurred significant losses after compensating affected customers. The Financial Services Commission (FSC) will finalise the sanctions at a later stage, according to sources cited by Yonhap news agency.

The FSS revealed that banks and brokerages sold a combined 19.3 trillion won worth of Hong Kong-linked ELS products since 2021. These hybrid securities offer returns based on the performance of underlying equities, including major stock indices. However, in early 2024, thousands of investors suffered steep losses when Hong Kong's H Index plunged sharply. Regulators later determined that the banks had failed to properly inform customers about product risks, contract conditions and other critical details, prompting an order to partially compensate investors.

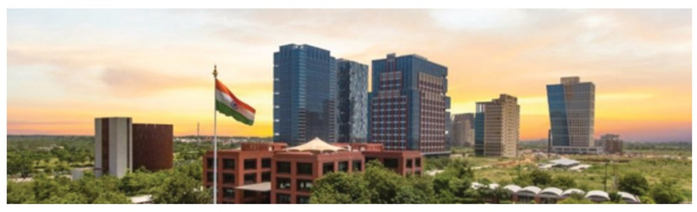
Among the penalised institutions, KB Kookmin Bank was the largest seller of the affected ELS products, recording sales of 8.2 trillion won. Shinhan Bank followed with 2.37 trillion won, NH Nonghyup with 2.13 trillion won and Hana Bank with 2.11 trillion won. Collectively, the banking sector paid out 1.4 trillion won in compensation to customers last year alone.

In response to the incident, the FSS announced plans to strengthen consumer protection measures in the financial sector. The watchdog will soon issue updated guidelines to ensure investment products are easier for consumers to understand, particularly regarding risk exposure. These measures were outlined during a debate session in Seoul that included lawmakers, industry experts and civic groups.

FSS Governor Lee Chan-jin said the mis-selling scandal surrounding Hong Kong-tied ELS products had revealed significant flaws in the country's consumer protection framework. He stressed that the regulator is committed to preventing similar incidents through stricter oversight and clearer safeguards for financial consumers.

GIFT City poised to anchor India's vision of Viksit Bharat at 2047

AHMEDABAD



Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City), India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), has rapidly evolved into India's premier international financial and IT hub, blending global standards with smart infrastructure, an official statement said on Friday.

With more than 1,034 registered entities in GIFT IFSC, the hub hosts 38 banks with an asset base of $100.14 billion.

It spans nearly 1,000 acres, expanding to more than 3,300 acres with SEZ and DTA zones, offering a 10-year income tax exemption within a 15-year block for IFSC units, according to official data.

The government has designated GIFT City as a Multi-Services Special Economic Zone (GIFT SEZ). Its governance rests on the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), backed by strong government oversight and policy support.

Its institutional framework is designed to attract global capital, foster innovation, and uphold international standards of transparency and sustainability. The IFSC unit is treated as a non-resident under the extant Foreign Exchange Management regulations.

IFSCA was established under the IFSCA Act, 2019, and has been operational since April 2020. It functions as a unified regulator for financial products, services, and institutions in GIFT IFSC.

It consolidates powers earlier divided among RBI, SEBI, IRDAI, and PFRDA for IFSC operations and has a mandate to develop and regulate financial services, promote ease of doing business, and align GIFT City with global standards. The India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) was launched in July 2022 at GIFT IFSC, Gandhinagar, promoted by leading institutions such as NSE, INDIA INX, NSDL, CDSL, and MCX, and is regulated by IFSCA. t provides a gateway for bullion imports into India while offering a world-class ecosystem for trading, investment in bullion financial products, and vaulting facilities.

The exchange ensures responsible and transparent bullion trade by adhering to OECD due diligence guidelines for supply chain integrity from conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

Govt opens entry for private entities to speed up coal exploration

NEW DELHI

In another important reform aimed at speeding up the exploration and operationalisation of coal mines, the government has issued a notification to allow private entities accredited by the Quality Council of India (QCI) to carry out prospecting operations for the exploration of coal and lignite, according to an official statement issued on Friday. This adds another 18 agencies for carrying out prospecting operations for the exploration of coal and lignite, enabling the coal blocks allottees to have more flexibility and choice towards engaging these agencies for accelerating the exploration of coal and lignite, the statement explained.

Exploration and preparation of geological report is a prerequisite for operationalisation of the coal mine. The addition of these exploration agencies will result in saving of around 6 months' time, which was earlier required for obtaining of prospecting license by the agency, the statement said.

In exercise of the powers under the second proviso to sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, private entities duly accredited by the Quality Council of India – National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (QCI NABET) have been notified on 26th November 2025, as notified Accredited Prospecting Agencies, the statement noted.

By expanding the pool of authorised prospecting agencies, the government aims to harness private sector resources, promote efficiency, competitiveness, and technological innovation in the exploration ecosystem.

This step is expected to significantly accelerate the pace of exploration and enable early enhancement of mining contributing to faster resource development and enhance coal and lignite availability for the country, contributing enhanced availability of coal and lignite to meet the nation's growing energy needs.

ICAI Sets Guinness World Record for Career Advice

NEW DELHI

Chartered accountants' apex body ICAI on Friday said it has set a Guinness World Record for conducting the largest career advice programme session in a single day in Mumbai that saw participation of more than 7,400 students and other individuals.

The 'Career in Accounting and Finance for Youth (CAFY 4.0) & Super Mega Career Counselling Programme' was held on Thursday and pan-India, the number of total participants was more than 1.3 lakh.

The event in Mumbai saw the "gathering with more than 7,400 students, teachers, principals and others participating in the event. The eligible record count achieved, 6,166 students which build the record-breaking title of the 'Largest careers advice lesson'," ICAI said in a release.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) said career counselling was offered for different streams, including humanities, science and commerce.

"Achieving a Guinness World Record for the largest career advice lesson is a proud moment that shows how deeply ICAI values guiding young minds. Reaching over 6,166 students in one session has helped them make informed choices and opened doors to opportunities beyond borders," ICAI President Charanjot Singh Nanda said.

INDIA TRADE TALKS

India Engaged in Trade Talks With Nearly 50 Nations: Goyal

NEW DELHI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced on Friday that India is currently in active discussions on trade agreements with 14 countries or blocs representing nearly 50 nations. These include the United States, the European Union, GCC countries, New Zealand, Israel, Eurasia, Canada, South Africa and the Mercosur group. The minister was addressing the annual general meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Goyal highlighted that India has already concluded balanced and equitable trade agreements with Australia, the UAE, Mauritius, the United Kingdom and the four-nation EFTA bloc. He said the global landscape today is shaped by significant geopolitical and economic challenges, which in turn have emphasised the importance of trusted partnerships and durable supply chains. India's expanding network of free trade agreements (FTAs), he noted, is designed to foster long-term cooperation built on transparency, fairness and mutual benefit.

Emphasising India's cultural and economic philosophy, Goyal said that self-reliance has deep roots in the country's civilisational ethos. He referred to teachings in the Bhagavad Gita and Mahatma Gandhi's advocacy for Swadeshi, noting that these principles have historically guided India's development journey. He added that this legacy continues to shape modern policy through the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Discussing the recent FTA with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), Goyal pointed out that the bloc has committed to invest $100 billion in India, particularly in innovation and precision manufacturing. He underscored India's strong competitive advantage in research and innovation, stating that world-class innovation can be carried out in India at a fraction of Europe's or America's costs.

Goyal reiterated that India's trade strategy is centred on fairness, sustainability and inclusivity, positioning the nation as a reliable partner in global commerce while strengthening domestic capabilities.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS and Addressing the Global Mental Health Crisis

In recent years, the world has increasingly recognized mental health as a critical component of overall well-being. Yet, despite this growing awareness, the global mental health crisis continues to intensify. Millions of people across countries, cultures, and age groups struggle with psychological conditions that often remain untreated, misunderstood, or stigmatized. As societies grapple with economic strain, rapid technological change, climate anxiety, and the aftermath of pandemics, mental health challenges have become both more visible and more urgent. Addressing this crisis requires sustained awareness, effective policy action, community involvement, and a commitment to breaking long-standing taboos.

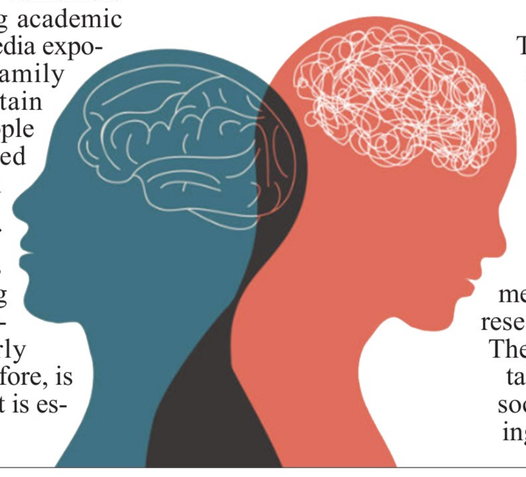
Understanding the Global Mental Health Burden

Mental health disorders are now among the leading causes of disability worldwide. Conditions such as depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, PTSD, and substance-use disorders affect nearly one in eight people globally. Yet, unlike many physical illnesses, mental health issues often remain hidden due to stigma, lack of awareness, or limited access to care.

The crisis is not distributed evenly. Low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) carry a disproportionately high burden, despite having the least resources. In many regions, there are fewer than one mental health professional for every 100,000 people. This shortage makes early diagnosis and consistent treatment nearly impossible for large segments of the population.

Children and adolescents represent another vulnerable group. With rising academic pressure, social media exposure, bullying, family stress, and uncertain futures, young people face unprecedented psychological strain. Suicide is tragically one of the leading causes of death among teenagers in several countries. Early intervention, therefore, is not just helpful—it is essential.

A Global Responsibility



The mental health crisis is not confined to any single region or demographic—it is a universal issue that requires global cooperation. International organizations, governments, private companies, and civil society must work collectively to strengthen mental health systems, promote research, and reduce inequalities. The goal is not just to treat mental illness, but to build resilient societies where mental well-being is prioritized and protected.

Technology, Social Media, and Modern Stressors

The digital age has brought both benefits and challenges for mental well-being. On one hand, technology has improved access to information, support groups, and teletherapy. On the other hand, social media can amplify loneliness, comparison, body-image issues, and cyberbullying. The constant stream of news—often negative—also contributes to stress and anxiety.

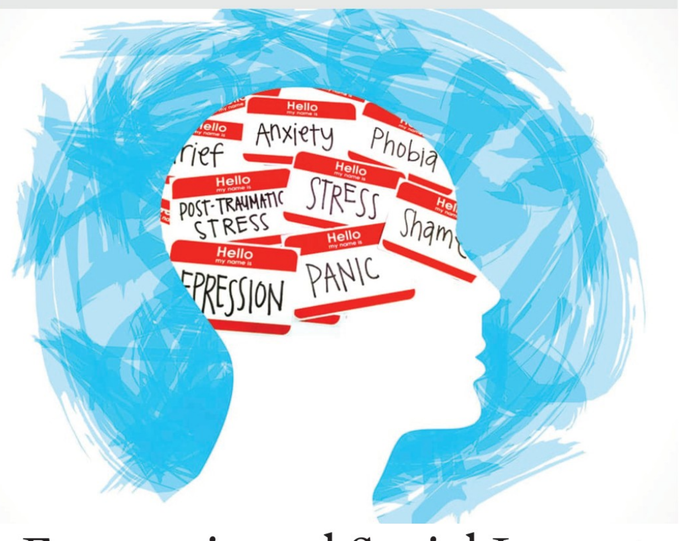
Moreover, the pressure of always being available, productive, and socially active online has blurred boundaries between personal and professional life. This leads to burnout, insomnia, and emotional exhaustion. As our lifestyles become more digitally driven, learning healthy digital habits becomes crucial.

The Role of Stigma and Cultural Barriers

One of the most persistent obstacles in addressing mental health issues is stigma. Misconceptions, stereotypes, and cultural biases often prevent individuals from seeking help. In many societies, mental illness is equated with weakness, a lack of discipline, or even supernatural causes. As a result, people conceal their struggles for fear of judgment, discrimination, or isolation.

Stigma also affects the way families, workplaces, and communities respond to psychological distress. Instead of encouraging professional help, many individuals are told to stay strong, focus on work, or get over it. This dismissive attitude can worsen symptoms, leading to untreated mental illnesses that escalate over time.

Breaking stigma requires open conversations, education, and representation. When public figures, leaders, and influencers speak honestly about mental health, they help normalize seeking help. Schools and workplaces must also create supportive environments where mental health is treated with the same seriousness as physical health.



Economic and Social Impact of Poor Mental Health

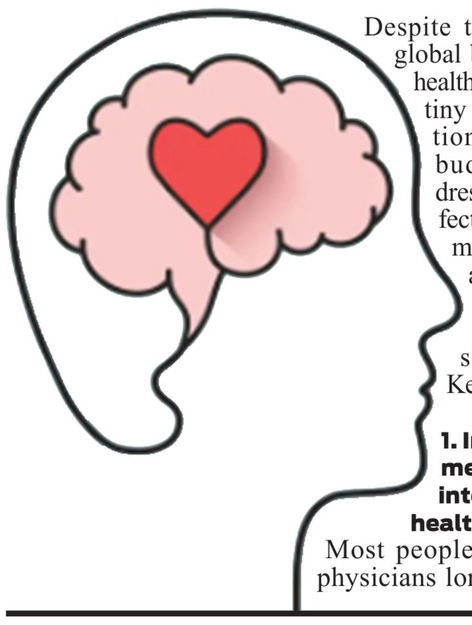
The consequences of mental health disorders extend far beyond individual suffering. Poor mental health affects productivity, relationships, and social cohesion. According to global health analyses, the economic cost of untreated mental illness is estimated in trillions of dollars annually due to lost productivity, absenteeism, healthcare expenses, and reduced quality of life.

For families, the emotional and financial strain can be overwhelming.

Caregiving responsibilities often fall disproportionately on women, deepening gender inequities.

Communities also suffer when people withdraw from jobs, education, or social roles due to untreated conditions. Thus, improving mental health is not just a personal issue—it is an economic and societal priority.

Improving Access to Mental Health Care



Despite the significant global burden, mental health receives only a tiny fraction of national healthcare budgets. To address this crisis effectively, countries must invest in accessible, affordable, and culturally sensitive services. Key steps include:

1. Integrating mental health into primary healthcare
Most people visit general physicians long before they see mental health specialists. Training primary care providers to screen for mental health symptoms can ensure early detection and reduce stigma.

2. Expanding telehealth and digital therapy
Telepsychiatry and online counseling have bridged gaps in many underserved regions. With proper regulation and quality assurance, digital tools can significantly widen access.

3. Increasing the mental health workforce
Governments and institutions must invest in training psychologists, counselors, social workers, and psychiatric nurses. Scholarships, awareness campaigns, and career incentives can attract more professionals to the field.

4. School-based mental health programs
Children spend a significant portion of their lives in educational settings. Schools can play a vital role by offering counseling, emotional-skills training, and early screening programs.

5. Community-led initiatives
Grassroots organizations, peer-support groups, and NGOs can provide localized, culturally relevant interventions—especially in regions where professional services are scarce.

Promoting Mental Health Awareness

Awareness is the foundation of any sustainable mental health strategy. It involves educating communities on symptoms, treatment options, coping strategies, and the importance of seeking help. Effective awareness campaigns use multiple channels—schools, workplaces, media, religious institutions, and social platforms—to reach diverse groups.

Creating safe spaces where people can share their experiences without fear of judgment is equally important. Storytelling, workshops, mental-health days, and community events encourage openness and reduce shame. Encouraging simple practices such as mindfulness, physical activity, journaling, or maintaining social connections also goes a long way in improving daily well-being.

Conclusion

The global mental health crisis is one of the most pressing challenges of our time. As awareness grows, so does the responsibility to take meaningful action. By breaking stigma, improving access to care, supporting vulnerable groups, and encouraging open dialogue, societies can move toward a future where mental health is treated with empathy, seriousness, and urgency. Every person—whether through listening, supporting, educating, or advocating—has a role in creating a world where mental well-being is not an afterthought, but a fundamental human right.

Understanding Digital Data Governance

Digital data governance refers to the framework of rules, processes, standards, and responsibilities that dictate how data is collected, stored, accessed, used, and eventually retired. It ensures that data remains accurate, secure, accessible to the right people, and compliant with legal and ethical requirements.

With businesses depending increasingly on cloud services, artificial intelligence, and automation, the need for strong data governance has never been greater. It is no longer just an IT function but a cross-functional, strategic necessity.

The core objectives of data governance include

1. **Data Quality:** Ensuring the data is accurate, consistent, and reliable for decision-making.
2. **Data Availability:** Providing timely and secure access to users who need it.
3. **Data Security and Privacy:** Protecting data from unauthorized access, misuse, or breaches.
4. **Compliance:** Meeting regulatory requirements such as GDPR, HIPAA, or India's DPDP Act.
5. **Accountability:** Assigning clear ownership and responsibility for data assets.

Rise of Cybersecurity Challenges in the Digital Age

As data environments grow more complex, cybersecurity risks multiply. Cyber attackers are more sophisticated, motivated, and well-equipped than ever before. For organizations, cyberattacks can lead to severe financial losses, regulatory penalties, reputational harm, and loss of customer trust. Therefore, cybersecurity must be tightly integrated with data governance practices.

Threats include

- Ransomware attacks that encrypt critical systems and demand payment.
- Phishing schemes that target employees through deceptive emails.
- Data breaches that expose sensitive personal or financial information.
- Insider threats, intentional or accidental.
- Cloud security vulnerabilities, especially with misconfigured settings.

Digital Data Governance and Cybersecurity Challenges

How Digital Data Governance and Cybersecurity Interconnect

While data governance ensures responsible management and compliance, cybersecurity provides the protective shield. Both systems complement each other in several ways:

1. Access Control and Identity Management
Data governance defines who should have access to what data, based on business roles and responsibilities. Cybersecurity enforces this through:

- Multi-factor authentication
- Role-based access control (RBAC)
- Privileged access management

Together, they minimize unauthorized access and insider threats.

2. Data Classification
Organizations must classify data based on sensitivity—public, internal, confidential, or highly confidential. Data governance establishes these categories, and cybersecurity assigns protection levels, such as:

- Encryption
- Tokenization
- Network segmentation

This ensures high-value data receives the highest level of defense.

In today's hyper-connected world, data has become one of the most valuable assets for individuals, companies, and governments. Whether it is customer information, financial transactions, intellectual property, or operational analytics, data fuels decision-making, innovation, and growth. However, as digital ecosystems expand, so do the risks. Managing data responsibly while safeguarding it from cyber threats has become a central challenge for modern organizations. This is where digital data governance and cybersecurity come together as critical pillars of sustainable digital transformation.

Key Challenges in Digital Data Governance

Despite its importance, organizations struggle with data governance due to several complexities:

1. Increasing Data Volume and Variety
With growing adoption of IoT devices, cloud applications, and social platforms, data is generated in enormous amounts and diverse formats. Managing this influx is difficult without automated governance tools.

2. Lack of Clear Ownership
Many companies fail to assign clear data owners or stewards, leading to confusion and inconsistent data practices. Without accountability, governance frameworks weaken.

3. Siloed Data Systems
Data often resides in multiple systems with limited integration. This leads to poor visibility, duplication, and inconsistent definitions—making governance harder.

4. Resistance to Cultural Change
Implementing governance requires employees to follow new procedures, which often meet resistance. Organizations must invest in training and communication to build a data-driven culture.

ICC warns members of revenue dip in next media rights cycle

ICC alert raises concern over a looming 30% cut in global cricket revenues

CHENNAI

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has cautioned its member boards to brace for a potential 30% reduction in revenue when the next media rights cycle begins in 2028, signalling a period of financial strain across the cricketing ecosystem. The warning surfaced through a recently published financial document, which cited the expected downturn and urged immediate planning to protect key programmes.

According to the document, the ICC communicated that members should prepare for the significant dip once existing broadcast deals expire. The board noted that such a decline would require swift measures to safeguard domestic structures and high-performance pathways. For many Full Members and virtually all Associate nations, ICC distributions form the backbone of operational budgets, funding everything from central contracts to grassroots development.

A 30% reduction, if realised, could have widespread implications. Player salaries, the ability to host Test matches, youth development schemes and domestic competitions may all face severe constraints. Smaller boards, which already operate on narrow margins, are expected to be the hardest hit. The KNCB has outlined plans to reduce its long-term reliance on ICC funds by attracting private partnerships and securing event-specific sponsors, particularly ahead of next year's Men's T20 World Cup.

Their qualification for the tournament in India has offered a timely financial boost. However, the broader global picture remains uncertain. One key reason behind the anticipated revenue drop is the merger between Disney Star and Jio, two major bidders in India's lucrative sports broadcast market. With reduced competition, the aggressive bidding wars that previously inflated ICC media rights valuations may no longer materialise, potentially reshaping cricket's financial landscape for years to come.

CUMMINS RULED OUT OF PINK-BALL TEST AS AUSTRALIA STICK TO SAME SQUAD

Australia will head into the second Ashes Test in Brisbane without captain Pat Cummins, who has been ruled out of the day-night encounter as he continues his recovery from a back niggle. Despite the setback, the selectors have opted for continuity, naming an unchanged 14-member squad for the match beginning December 4.

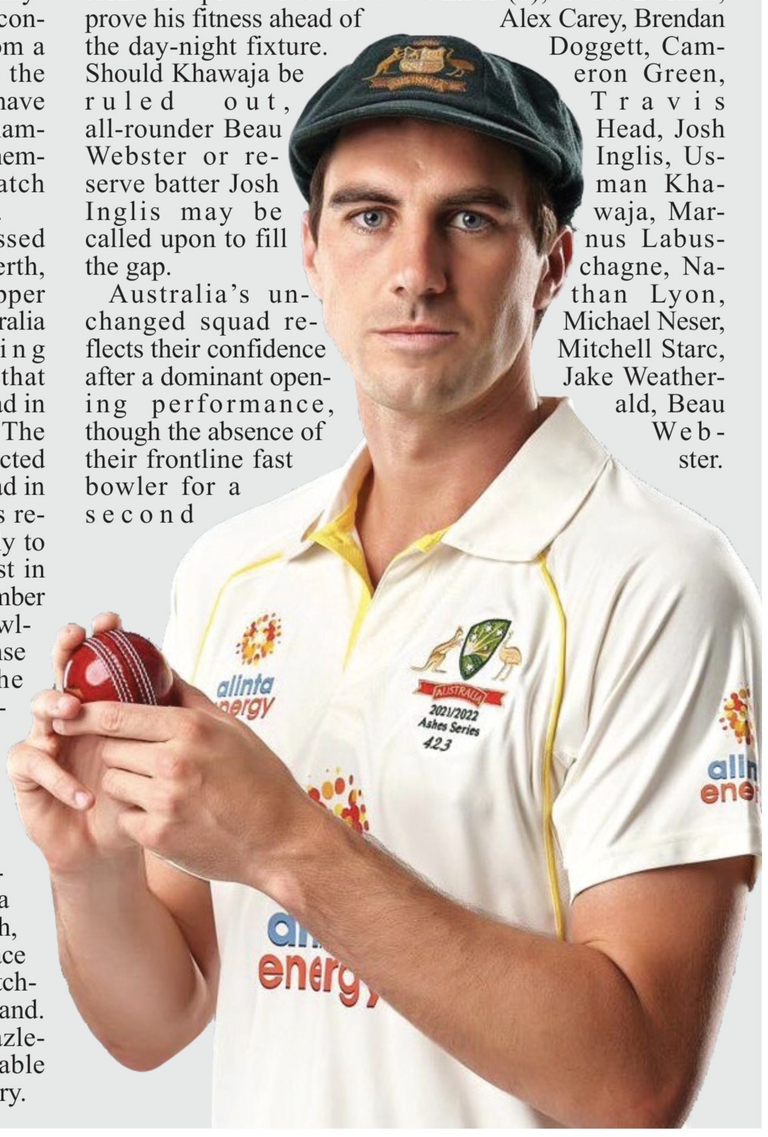
Cummins, who missed the opening Test in Perth, watched stand-in skipper Steve Smith guide Australia to a commanding eight-wicket victory that gave the hosts a 1-0 lead in the five-match series. The pace spearhead is expected to remain with the squad in Brisbane to resume his rehabilitation and is likely to return for the third Test in Adelaide starting December 17. He was spotted bowling to Smith in an intense training session at the SCG on Friday, indicating encouraging progress.

His absence, however, leaves Australia light in experience. Brendan Doggett, impressive with a five-wicket haul in Perth, is poised to share the pace workload alongside Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland. Veteran quick Josh Hazlewood remains unavailable due to a hamstring injury.

The squad also includes opener Usman Khawaja, who suffered back spasms during the first Test. He retains his place but must prove his fitness ahead of the day-night fixture. Should Khawaja be ruled out, all-rounder Beau Webster or reserve batter Josh Inglis may be called upon to fill the gap.

Australia's unchanged squad reflects their confidence after a dominant opening performance, though the absence of their frontline fast bowler for a second straight Test presents a stern challenge as the Ashes battle intensifies.

Australia squad: Steve Smith (c), Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Brendan Doggett, Cameron Green, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Michael Neser, Mitchell Starc, Jake Weatherald, Beau Webster.



SL edge Pak by six runs as Chameera's brilliance seals must-win clash

Chameera's four-wicket burst propels Sri Lanka into tri-series final

RAWALPINDI

Sri Lanka booked their place in the final of the T20 tri-series with a gripping six-run win over Pakistan, powered by a devastating four-wicket spell from Dushmantha Chameera and a composed batting display led by Kamil Mishra. The victory ensured Sri Lanka progressed ahead of Zimbabwe to meet Pakistan again in Saturday's title clash.

Asked to bat first, Sri Lanka posted a competitive 184-5, anchored by Mishra's fluent 76 off 48 deliveries. The opener dominated the early exchanges, sweeping confidently and maintaining a brisk scoring rate. His 58-run powerplay stand with Kusal Mendis (40) set the tone before Mendis fell lbw to Abrar Ahmed. Mishra continued to attack but eventually holed out in the 17th over. A late surge from Janith Liyanage (24 not out) and captain Dasun Shanaka (17 not out) added 24 runs in the final two overs, providing crucial momentum.

Pakistan, already assured of a place in the final, faltered early in their chase as Chameera ripped through the top order with figures of 3-3 in the powerplay. He removed Sahibzada Farhan with a clever slower ball and trapped Babar Azam for a duck, putting the hosts under immediate pressure at 4-43. Despite brief resistance from Saim Ayub (27) and a promising 56-run stand between captain Salman Ali Agha (63 not out) and Usman Khan (33), Sri Lanka's bowlers maintained discipline.

Agha and Mohammad Nawaz (27) launched a fierce counterattack in the death overs, adding 70 off 36 balls to revive Pakistan's hopes. But Eshan Malinga's vital breakthrough in the penultimate over, combined with Chameera's calm final over conceding just three runs when 10 were needed, sealed the match for Sri Lanka.

Shanaka praised his team's resilience, calling Chameera's performance "world-class," while Agha admitted Pakistan paid heavily for early wickets and loose bowling in the powerplay.

'Davis Cup Has Become a Joke': Sinner Slammed After Withdrawal

LONDON

Italy may have lifted their fourth Davis Cup title — and third in a row — but the celebrations were tempered by an ongoing debate over the tournament's dwindling prestige after Jannik Sinner's high-profile withdrawal. He opted out of the finals to focus on preparations for the 2026 season, a decision that drew sharp criticism from former players and reignited concerns around the future of the historic team event.

Despite missing both Sinner and Lorenzo Musetti, Italy defeated Spain with Matteo Berrettini and Flavio Cobolli stepping up impressively, winning their singles matches to secure the trophy. But the absence of top names dominated post-match discussion.

Former British player John Lloyd delivered a scathing assessment, "That would never have happened in my time," he said. "My reaction was sadness… the Davis Cup has become a bit of a joke.

Arteta Hails 'Immense' Arsenal after Win over Bayern, Keeping Kane Quiet

LONDON

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta hailed his side's "immense" performance after a commanding 3-1 victory over Bayern Munich at the Emirates Stadium, a result that preserved the club's perfect Champions League record and underlined their status as Europe's form team. With five wins from five group-stage matches and top spot in the Premier League, the Gunners are enjoying one of their most dominant starts in recent memory.

Arsenal struck early through Jurrien Timber, whose well-timed header capped a strong first-half display. Bayern responded with a sweeping move finished by 17-year-old prodigy Lennart Karl — the first goal Arsenal have conceded in the competition this season. But Arteta's substitutes made the difference after the break, with Noni Madueke and Gabriel Martinelli scoring decisive goals that handed Bayern their first defeat in 19 matches across all competitions. "They had an incredible match against, in my opinion, the best team in Europe," Arteta said. "Individually we were immense to resolve all the challenges this team brings."

Just days after a resounding 4-1 win over rivals Tottenham, Arsenal again showcased their sharpness, intensity and depth. The victory arrives ahead of another high-stakes fixture: a weekend trip to second-placed Chelsea, who trail the Gunners by six points in the Premier League title race.

Arteta praised the atmosphere at the Emirates and the consistency his side has shown across competitions. "The energy we created, the quality we played with — it's incredible," he said. "We have to maintain that because it's still very early, and every three days you have to do it."

Manasi Joshi Targets World Championship Gold as Hectic 2026 Season Looms

NEW DELHI

Former world champion Manasi Joshi is gearing up for one of the busiest seasons of her career, with her focus firmly set on reclaiming the World Championship gold she last won in 2019. The 36-year-old para badminton star will compete in singles, doubles and mixed doubles at the 2026 World Championships in February, followed by the Asian Games in October — a demanding calendar she describes as "extremely hectic."

Joshi, who has collected seven World Championship medals so far, including bronze in the last two editions in the SL3 women's singles category, said receiving her selection letter for all three events was a moment of "real pride." She has been in strong form in recent months, securing multiple medals across Japan, Australia and Indonesia as part of her comeback campaign after a ranking dip post-Paralympics.

"After the Paralympics, my ranking had dropped because I didn't play many tournaments. I had to push hard to upgrade my world ranking and stay in the top three in India," said Joshi, who took up para badminton after losing her leg in a 2011 accident.

The rise of younger players, she believes, has intensified competition. "I'm working hard… I wish to win the gold this time at the World Championship," she said.

Joshi also reflected on the physical demands of competing across formats. "Playing three events is definitely challenging. It drains your energy, but recovery is the key," she noted.

Her journey this year included a difficult post-Paralympics phase, a much-needed break from competition, and a surgery in June to remove uterine fibroids. The recovery was particularly demanding as a prosthetic user, but Joshi credits her Hyderabad-based support team at the Gopichand Academy for helping her return to top-level training.

"I really wanted to qualify for the World Championships," she said. "The day I returned home after the Asian Championships, I told my doctor the next morning — I'm ready for the surgery."

WORLD CHAMPION INDIA RETURN TO ACTION WITH HOME T20IS AGAINST SRI LANKA THIS MONTH

India to host Sri Lanka for five-match women's T20I series in Dec

NEW DELHI

India will host Sri Lanka in a five-match women's T20I series from December 21 to 30 in Visakhapatnam and Thiruvananthapuram, the BCCI announced on Friday. The fixtures mark the first international assignment for the newly crowned ODI World Cup champions since their historic triumph earlier this year.

The announcement comes shortly after India's scheduled home series against Bangladesh was postponed due to political tensions between the two neighbouring countries. Sri Lanka, stepping in as replacements, will be touring India for a bilateral women's T20I series for the first time since 2016, when the hosts secured a commanding 3-0 win.

The BCCI, in its statement, confirmed that the first two matches will be played in Visakhapatnam before the action shifts to Thiruvananthapuram for the final three games. India's last T20I outing came in July, when they clinched a breakthrough 3-2 series victory in England — their first-ever T20I series win on English soil. The upcoming series offers India an opportunity to fine-tune combinations ahead of a busy 2026 calendar, while Sri Lanka will aim to test themselves against one of the world's strongest units. With India emerging as global frontrunners following their World Cup success, fan interest is expected to be high across both venues.

VENUES:
Visakhapatnam
(1st & 2nd T20I)
Thiruvananthapuram
(3rd, 4th & 5th T20I)

INDIA vs SRI LANKA — WOMEN'S T20I SERIES 2025
SERIES DATES:
December 21–30, 2025

INDIA'S LAST T20I SERIES:
3-2 win vs England (away), July 2025
SRI LANKA'S LAST TOUR OF INDIA (T20Is):
2016 — India won 3-0

FULL SCHEDULE
- 1st T20I: Dec 21 – Visakhapatnam
- 2nd T20I: Dec 23 – Visakhapatnam
- 3rd T20I: Dec 26 – Thiruvananthapuram
- 4th T20I: Dec 28 – Thiruvananthapuram
- 5th T20I: Dec 30 – Thiruvananthapuram

Verstappen Backs McLaren's Decision to Let Drivers Duel

DOHA

Red Bull's Max Verstappen believes McLaren have made the right call by allowing Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri to race each other freely for the Formula One world title, insisting that any attempt to impose team orders would unfairly undermine Piastri. Speaking ahead of the Qatar Grand Prix, Verstappen said Piastri "would be labelled a number two" if he were asked to support Norris in the decisive final stretch of the championship. Norris could clinch the title on Sunday in Doha, but he is closely pursued by teammate Piastri and Verstappen himself — both 24 points behind with 58 still available. With the constructors' championship already sealed, McLaren have maintained their stance of offering equal status to both drivers, a move Verstappen described as "perfect". "You can't do a better job than allowing them to race," said the Dutchman, noting he would never accept being told not to fight for a title. "If you're a real winner and a racer, you go for it — even if you're behind."

Piastri confirmed that McLaren had briefly discussed team orders but rejected the idea. "The answer is no," the Australian said. "I'm still equal on points with Max and I've got a decent shot of winning it if things go my way."

Both Norris and Piastri have taken seven victories this season, maintaining a surprisingly harmonious partnership despite the high stakes.

Portugal edge Austria to capture first-ever U17 world title in expanded FIFA event

Portugal clinches maiden FIFA U-17 WC crown with narrow win

DOHA

Portugal captured their first FIFA Under-17 World Cup title, defeating Austria 1-0 in the final of the expanded 48-team tournament. A composed finish from Benfica's rising star Anísio Cabral in the 32nd minute proved decisive in a tightly contested match dominated by tactical discipline and high-intensity pressing from both sides.

Cabral, who timed his run perfectly to stay onside, met a low cross at the far post and tapped the ball into an empty net after Austria's defence was left scrambling. The goal capped a standout campaign for the 17-year-old forward, who finished the tournament with seven goals — just one behind Austria's Johannes Moser, who claimed the Golden Ball for best player.

The victory marks Portugal's first triumph at the U17 level, achieved in the 20th edition of the youth showpiece. The tournament, traditionally held every two years, has now shifted to an annual format under FIFA's youth development expansion programme. Qatar, which hosted this year's event, will continue as the venue for the next four editions.

Earlier in the day, Italy secured third place with a dramatic win over Brazil. After a tense 0-0 draw, goalkeeper Alessandro Longoni emerged as the hero in the penalty shootout, saving two spot-kicks to seal a 4-2 victory. The result ensured a clean sweep of the podium for European teams, underscoring the continent's depth in youth talent.

Portugal's triumph, built on disciplined defending and clinical finishing, adds another chapter to the nation's rich footballing pedigree and highlights a promising generation poised to shape its future on the global stage.

Liverpool seek revival as Arsenal brace for high-stakes

LONDON

Liverpool's season hangs precariously as the defending Premier League champions travel to West Ham this weekend amid their worst run of form in more than seven decades. Having lost nine of their past 12 matches in all competitions, Arne Slot's side sit 12th in the table, their title defence in ruins just months after lifting their 20th league crown.

A damaging 4-1 Champions League defeat to PSV Eindhoven has deepened the malaise, with Slot admitting sleepless nights as the goals continue to pour in. Liverpool's inability to convert chances, coupled with persistent defensive errors, has resulted in 34 goals conceded — the most by any Premier League team this season. Despite their steep decline, they remain only three points off fourth-placed Aston Villa, offering a faint glimmer of hope.

At the opposite end of the table, leaders Arsenal head into Sunday's showdown against second-placed Chelsea with confidence soaring. Mikel Arteta's side, six points clear at the summit, are also top of their Champions League group after an impressive 3-1 victory over Bayern Munich. With key players still sidelined, Arsenal's depth has shone through — substitutes Noni Madueke and Gabriel Martinelli scored midweek, underscoring the squad's growing maturity. Opta analysts now rate the Gunners as strong favourites to lift their first league title since the Invincibles of 2004.

Meanwhile, Aston Villa continue their remarkable resurgence under Unai Emery. After failing to win any of their first five league games, a run of six victories in seven has propelled them into the top four. Facing struggling Wolves, Villa could rise to second if results align. Their long-range accuracy — eight of 15 goals from outside the box — has become a defining feature. Wolves, winless in 12 matches, face a daunting task at a ground where Villa have been unbeaten since August.

EA FC players to clash in Delhi as championship reaches its climax

Final Eight Set for PlayStation India Cup 2025 Finale at Delhi Comic Con

NEW DELHI

The PlayStation India Cup 2025 is gearing up for a high-stakes finish as India's top EA Sports FC players prepare to battle it out live at Delhi Comic Con next week.

Now in its fourth edition, the tournament—organised in partnership with NODWIN Gaming—has grown into one of the country's premier console esports competitions. After weeks of daily online qualifiers held through October and November, followed by intense double elimination playoffs, the final eight PS5 players have secured their places in the LAN finale. The championship matches will be hosted at the NODWIN Gaming Arena at NSIC Grounds, New Delhi, on December 6 and 7, a major draw for the thousands expected to attend Delhi Comic Con.

This year's finalists include some of India's most accomplished EA FC competitors: Charanjot Singh, Afnan Khan, Karman Tikka, Chaitanya Singh, Amaanuddin Warsi, Saransh Jain, Aditya Chadha, and Jahaan Khan. Each player displayed consistency and resilience through the online stages, earning their chance to compete for the coveted national title. All eight contenders will also receive official PlayStation gear, including the premium DualSense Edge controller.

The LAN finale will retain the double elimination structure used in the online phase, ensuring competitors have an opportunity to stage comebacks even after early setbacks. Across two days of matches, players will contend for the ₹4,00,000 prize pool, with the ultimate winner crowned the PlayStation India Cup 2025 Champion.

Fans attending the event can look forward to live match broadcasts, creator sessions, interactive PlayStation zones, and a vibrant gathering of the EA FC community. The finale promises high-energy competition, fan engagement, and a showcase of India's growing console esports scene.

Santiago Nieva Returns as Indian Women's Boxing Head Coach

NEW DELHI

Argentine-born Swede Santiago Nieva has been appointed head coach of the Indian women's boxing team, returning to the national setup after serving as the high-performance director of Indian boxing from 2017 to 2022. Nieva previously worked extensively with India's men's squad, overseeing landmark achievements, including India's largest-ever Olympic representation at Tokyo 2020 and two historic medals at the 2019 Men's World Championships.

"Super excited to come back to India. I had five wonderful years here in my previous stint. I am very much looking forward to this next chapter, and hopefully, we can create something big together," Nieva said on his return.

With over two decades of elite international coaching experience, Nieva has held influential high-performance roles across global boxing. Most recently, he served as National Head Coach and Technical Lead of Boxing Australia's High Performance Unit, further strengthening his expertise.

Under-19 Asia Cup: Ayush Mhatre to lead India

NEW DELHI

ROAD TO FINAL:
- Dec 12: vs Qualifier
- Dec 14: vs Pakistan
- Dec 16: vs Qualifier
- Dec 19: Semifinals
- Dec 21: Final

Promising young batter Ayush Mhatre will continue to lead India at the upcoming Under-19 Asia Cup, scheduled in Dubai from December 12 to 21. The 50-overs continental tournament will once again spotlight 14-year-old batting prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, whose explosive rise in youth cricket has generated widespread attention.

Mhatre, who captained the side during a successful multi-format tour of Australia earlier this year, will be supported by vice-captain Vihaan Malhotra. The tournament will also serve as a key preparatory platform ahead of the U19 World Cup in Zimbabwe and Namibia in early 2026.

Sooryavanshi enters the event in stunning form. The teenager recently blasted a 32-ball hundred — joint third-fastest in men's T20 history — on his way to a 42-ball 144 against the UAE in the Rising Stars Asia Cup, reaffirming his status as the most exciting young batter in the country.

The BCCI confirmed that all-rounder Kishan Kumar Singh has been included in the squad subject to proving his fitness. India will begin their campaign against a qualifier on December 12, followed by a highly anticipated clash against Pakistan on December 14. They will face another qualifier on December 16. The semifinals are slated for December 19, with the final set for December 21.

With a blend of solid leadership, proven performers, and emerging stars, India will aim to continue their dominance in age-group cricket and build momentum ahead of next year's World Cup.

INDIA U19 SQUAD

Ayush Mhatre (c), Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Vihaan Malhotra (vc), Vedant Trivedi, Abhigyan Kundu (wk), Harvansh Singh (wk), Yuvraj Gohil, Kanishk Chouhan, Khilan A. Patel, Naman Pushpak, D. Deepesh, Henil Patel, Kishan Kumar Singh*, Udhav Mohan, Aaron George.

Standbys: Rahul Kumar, Hemchudeshan J, B.K. Kishore, Aditya Rawat.

Tournament: Under-19 Asia Cup 2025 (Dubai, Dec 12–21)
Captain: Ayush Mhatre
Player to Watch: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi (32-ball T20 hundred)
Key Match: India vs Pakistan — Dec 14

Vora Wins Silver at Asian Continental Equestrian Championships

NEW DELHI

Ace Indian equestrian Shruti Vora clinched an individual silver medal at the Asian Continental Equestrian Championships in Pattaya, extending her impressive run at the continental competition.

Riding Magnanimous, Vora delivered a composed and technically polished performance to score 70.147, securing second place in the Intermediate I – Dressage Individual event. She finished behind China's Sarah Rao, who topped the field with 73.794, while Thailand's Pakjira Thongpakdi claimed bronze with 69.118. Vora's routine showcased balance, rhythm, and seamless transitions—qualities she had already demonstrated earlier in the week when she helped India capture a team silver in the Dressage Prix St. Georges (PSG) event on the opening day of the championships on November 25. In that event, the Indian team of Vora, Divyakriti Singh, and Gaurav Pundir posted a combined total of 204.059, earning them a strong second-place finish.

FIFA Accused of Bending Rules to Favor Cristiano Ronaldo

NEW DELHI

Controversy erupts after Ronaldo cleared to play despite violent conduct suspension

FIFA has faced criticism after altering its disciplinary rules to allow Cristiano Ronaldo to participate in all of Portugal's World Cup matches next year. The decision follows Ronaldo's attendance at a White House dinner, where he met US President Donald Trump, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and FIFA President Gianni Infantino.

Ronaldo had elbowed Dara O'Shea during Portugal's 2-0 loss to the Republic of Ireland in the World Cup qualifiers last month. According to FIFA's disciplinary code for violent conduct, he was liable for a three-match ban. He served one match against Armenia, but the remaining two-match suspension was suspended under a one-year probation period, allowing him to play in Portugal's opening World Cup fixtures.

FIFA justified the decision by citing Ronaldo's clean record in his previous 225 international appearances, stating that the two-match ban would only be enforced if he committed another similar infraction during the probationary period. The governing body referenced Article 27 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code, which grants FIFA discretion to reduce or cancel bans. Critics argue that the decision sets a dangerous precedent, suggesting that elite players can receive preferential treatment. Former players and analysts on social media expressed disappointment, calling the ruling "a bending of rules" and questioning FIFA's impartiality.

A FIFA statement clarified: "If Cristiano Ronaldo commits another infringement of a similar nature and gravity during the probationary period, the suspension shall be immediately enforced. This is without prejudice to any additional sanctions for the new infringement." The original three-match suspension remains subject to appeal by Ronaldo to the FIFA Appeal Committee.

Portugal coach and fans welcomed the ruling, emphasizing Ronaldo's importance in the team, but the controversy has intensified debate over fairness and consistency in FIFA's disciplinary actions.

Lionel Messi Adds Hyderabad to 'GOAT' India Tour

NEW DELHI

Football superstar Lionel Messi will bring his much-anticipated 'GOAT Tour' to India next month, with Hyderabad now confirmed as the fourth stop on his itinerary. Originally set to visit Kolkata, Mumbai, and Delhi, the Argentine World Cup winner announced the addition via Instagram: "Thanks for all the love from India! The GOAT tour kicks off in a few weeks' time! I'm happy to share that Hyderabad has been added to my visits to Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi. See you soon India!"

Messi's Hyderabad appearance is scheduled for December 13 at 7 PM at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, immediately after his morning session in Kolkata.

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